

August 1984, 40p

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SPECIAL**

AIRGUN WORLD



**GREAT
COMPETITION!**
WIN A HW80
"VARMINTER"
SPECIALLY CUSTOMISED
AND ENGRAVED
WITH WINNER'S
INITIALS

PACKS A MIGHTY PUNCH! **MAGNUM .22**

BY A.S.I.

This really powerful air rifle packs a mighty punch! Using the famous GAMO pellets (marketed by ASI), great accuracy can be achieved, making this one of the leading sporting air rifles of its day. An awesome performer — another great gun from ASI.

Retail price

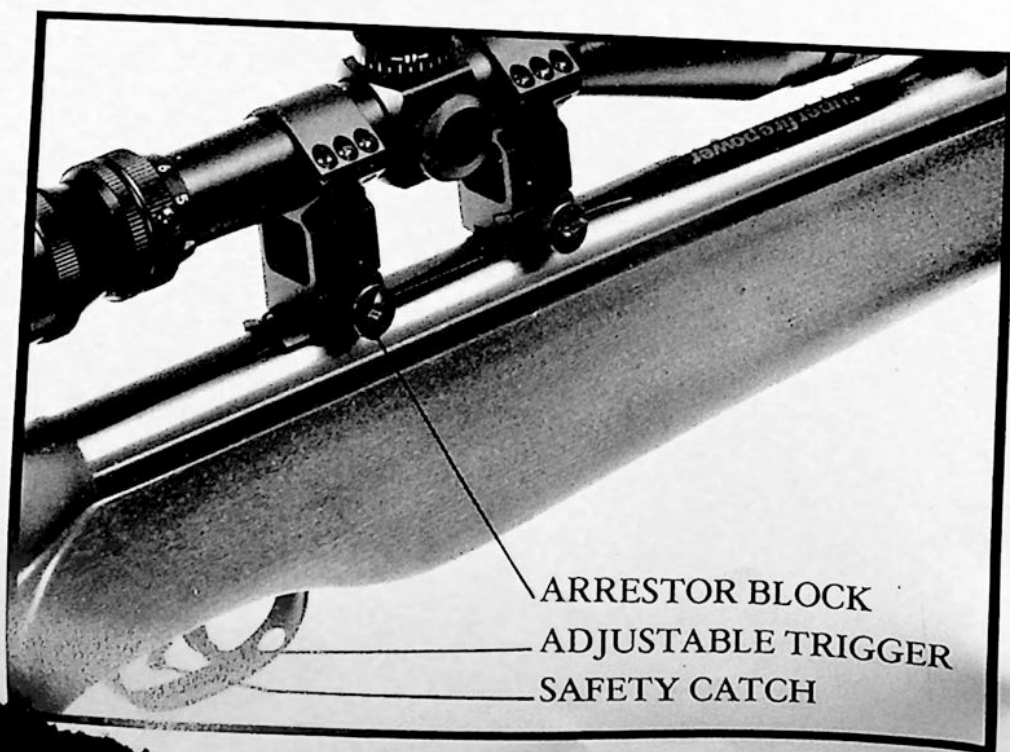
£55.00 inc. VAT

The model is illustrated with a 3.9x56 dawn/dusk scope, from ASI's range of Super Scopes.

Tests have shown it to be so consistent in its power output that it has been possible to keep very close to the power limit, without any risk of exceeding it.

Features include:

- anatomically designed beechwood stock
- over-sized compression chamber
- safety catch
- adjustable trigger
- arrestor block as a standard fitting



A.S.I. Importers and Distributors
Alliance House, Snape Maltings, Snape,
Saxmundham. Telephone 072 888 555.



1 Ensign Elite

1st Choice for Dave Boothby

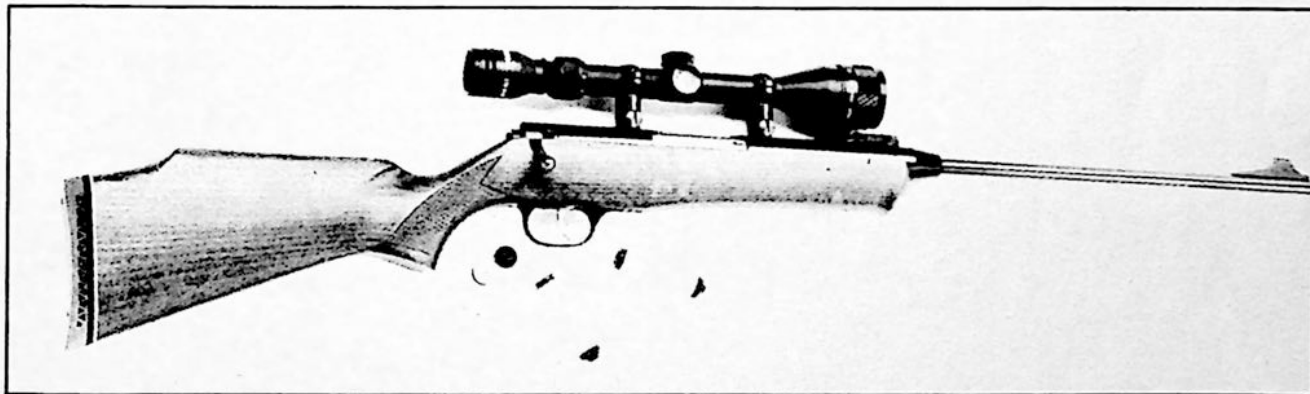
Great Britain International Shooting Team 1976-81 (Proprietor of Gunsport).

125/127 Wellgate Rotherham South Yorks S60 2NN

All for £199.95 inc. VAT, and £3 p+p, or for example, £19.95 deposit and £10.04 a month over 24 months. Total credit price £260.15 Typical APR 34.2%

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Or complete and return coupon, with deposit of £19.95 + £3 postage



The Ensign Elite (pictured) is the ultimate air rifle for power, accuracy, looks and handling.

GUNSPORT'S Ensign Elite package – rifle, pump, 10 cartridges, Tasco 663A 4x32 telescopic sight, revolutionary new Tasco mount, with padded gunslip.

FAC version now available at no extra cost to holders of valid certificate. 

NAME: _____

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FINANCE REQUIRED: YES/NO INDICATE PERIOD: 12 ☐ 18 ☐ 24 ☐ months
 CHEQUE OR CREDIT CARD HOLDER: YES/NO Barclaycard/Access welcome.

paid monthly.

GUNSPORT'S

SUPER Field Combinations

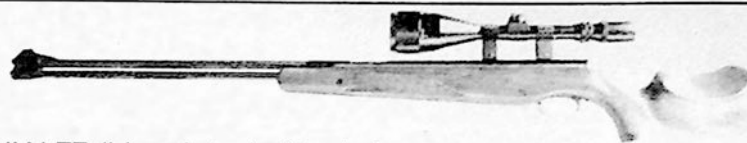
		DEPOSIT
2a	HW-80 A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT/MOUNTS	£201 OR £21 x 4.05 pw
2b	HW-80 TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£190 OR £19 x 3.84 pw
2c	HW-80 TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£173 OR £18 x 3.48 pw
3a	HW-77 A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£215 OR £22 x 4.33 pw
3b	HW-77 TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£204 OR £21 x 4.11 pw
3c	HW-77 TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£187 OR £19 x 3.77 pw
4a	HW-35 A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£211 OR £22 x 4.25 pw
4b	HW-35E TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£200 OR £20 x 4.05 pw
4c	HW-35E TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£183 OR £19 x 3.69 pw
5a	FWB MKII A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£223 OR £23 x 4.49 pw
5b	FWB MKII TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£212 OR £22 x 4.27 pw
5c	FWB MKII TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£195 OR £20 x 3.93 pw
6a	BSA AIRSPORTER S A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT ...	£223 OR £23 x 4.49 pw
6b	BSA AIRSPORTER S TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£212 OR £22 x 4.27 pw
6c	BSA AIRSPORTER S TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£195 OR £20 x 3.93 pw
7a	BSA MERCURY S A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£192 OR £20 x 3.86 pw
7b	BSA MERCURY S TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£181 OR £19 x 3.64 pw
7c	BSA MERCURY S TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£164 OR £17 x 3.30 pw
8a	SHARPE ACE A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT MOUNTS	£218 OR £22 x 4.40 pw
8b	SHARPE ACE TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 MOUNTS	£207 OR £21 x 4.18 pw
8c	SHARPE ACE TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A MOUNTS	£190 OR £19 x 3.84 pw
9a	SHARPE INNOVA TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A	£157 OR £16 x 3.17 pw
9b	SHARPE INNOVA TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A	£140 OR £14 x 2.83 pw
10a	THEOBEN SIROCCO DLX A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT/THBN MOUNTS	£343 OR £35 x 6.92 pw
10b	THEOBEN SIROCCO DLX TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A THBN MOUNTS ...	£327 OR £33 x 6.60 pw
10c	THEOBEN SIROCCO DLX TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A THBN MOUNTS	£310 OR £31 x 6.27 pw
11a	THEOBEN SIROCCO STD A.S.I. 3-9x50 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT/THBN MOUNTS	£293 OR £30 x 5.91 pw
11b	THEOBEN SIROCCO STD TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A THBN MOUNTS ...	£277 OR £28 x 5.59 pw
11c	THEOBEN SIROCCO STD TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A THBN MOUNTS	£260 OR £26 x 5.26 pw
12	BAVARIA VENOM A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£301 OR £31 x 6.06 pw
13a	WEBLEY VLCN DLX A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£197 OR £20 x 3.98 pw
13b	WEBLEY VLCN DLX TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£186 OR £19 x 3.75 pw
13c	WEBLEY VLCN DLX TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£169 OR £17 x 3.42 pw
14	WEBLEY TRACKER TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£169 OR £17 x 3.42 pw
15a	ORIGINAL 50TO1 A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT ...	£233 OR £24 x 4.70 pw
15b	ORIGINAL 50TO1 TASC0 648FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£205 OR £21 x 4.14 pw
16a	ORIGINAL 45 A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM DAY-NIGHT 1PC MOUNT	£193 OR £20 x 3.89 pw
16b	ORIGINAL 45 TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 1PC MOUNT	£182 OR £19 x 3.66 pw
16c	ORIGINAL 45 648 FM 4x40 W/A 1PC MOUNT	£165 OR £17 x 3.32 pw
17a	ENSIGN ELITE RIFLE PUMP 10 CARTRIDGES	£170 OR £17 x 3.44 pw
17b	ENSIGN ELITE A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT/MOUNTS	£263 OR £27 x 5.30 pw
17c	ENSIGN ELITE & TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A/MOUNTS	£252 OR £26 x 5.08 pw
17d	ENSIGN ELITE & TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A/MOUNTS	£235 OR £24 x 4.74 pw
18a	ENSIGN ROYALE RIFLE PUMP 10 CARTRIDGES	£250 OR £25 x 5.06 pw
18b	ENSIGN ROYALE & A.S.I. 3-9x56 FM PLX ADJ DAY-NIGHT/MOUNTS ...	£329 OR £33 x 6.65 pw
18c	ENSIGN ROYALE & TASC0 626 FM 2-7x32 W/A MOUNTS	£316 OR £32 x 6.38 pw
18d	ENSIGN ROYALE & TASC0 648 FM 4x40 W/A MOUNTS	£299 OR £30 x 6.04 pw

For example: 2a HW-80 A.S.I. 'Super' 3-9x56 FM Plx adjustable Day/Night Scope and 1 pc mount. £201 or £21 deposit and £4.05 per week over 12 months total credit price £231.12 Typical APR 34.2% weekly payments quoted for 12 month period.



FROM GUNSPORT

- 19 HW-77 'Varminter' rifle de-luxe with A.S.I. super day & night 3-9x56 FM P/A scope & MTS £295 or £30 deposit and £5.95 pw lpc mount



HW-77 'Varminter' rifle de-luxe

- 20 HW-77 'Varminter' - carbine de-luxe with mounts A.S.I. super day & night 3-9x56 FM P/A £295 or £30 deposit and £5.95 pw lpc mount



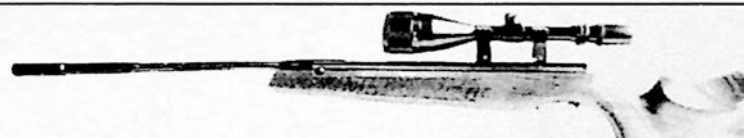
HW-77 'Varminter-Carbine' de-luxe 13½" barrel

- 21 HW-80 'Varminter' - rifle de-luxe with A.S.I. super day & night 3-9x56 FM, P/A scope & MTS £284 or £29 deposit and £5.73 pw lpc mount



HW-80 'Varminter' - rifle de-luxe

- 22 HW-80 'Varminter' - carbine de-luxe with A.S.I. super day & night 3-9x56 FM P/A scope & MTS with air logic whisperer silencer £299 or £30 deposit and £6.04 pw lpc mount



HW-80 'Varminter - Carbine' de-luxe 15" barrel

These 'Varminter' combinations are furnished with selected french walnut stocks, hand polished & checkered (right hand only).

'VARMINTER' RIFLES ONLY

- 19a HW-77 'VARMINTER' - RIFLE DE-LUXE £199 OR £20 DEPOSIT AND £4.02 pw
 20a HW-77 'VARMINTER' - CARBINE DE-LUXE £199 OR £20 DEPOSIT AND £4.02 pw
 21a HW-80 'VARMINTER' - RIFLE DE-LUXE £188 OR £19 DEPOSIT AND £3.80 pw
 22a HW-80 'VARMINTER' - CARBINE DE-LUXE £199 OR £20 DEPOSIT AND £4.02 pw

Varminter rifles featured are fitted with a Tyrolean-style stock. Sporter style stocks available at the same price.

Swivel Set
inc. leather sling £10.95
Specify Rifle

Air-Logic Whisperer
Silencers £19.50
Sharpe Innova £25

De-luxe Gunbag to fit any
Gunsport combination
£15.95

'Varminter' - de-luxe
stocks, HW-77 or 80
£79.95 finished, fits
straight on.
HW-77 and HW80 factory
standard stocks. £30

TASCO - A.S.I. FM scopes, at unbeatable prices.
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**THE ORIGINAL &
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The ultimate air rifle mainspring. Manufactured by Gunsport from Swedish silicon chrome spring steel, with unique square section, for up to 40 per cent more compressed poundage.
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GUNSPORT

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Please send me the following goods

Ref. No. Calibre .22 ☐ or .177 ☐

I enclose deposit of £ ☐ £3 p.p (chq/cash/PO) ☐
☐ £1 p.p for accessories.

Name: _____ Tel: _____

Address: _____

Age: (Min. age 18 for terms) Finance required: Yes/No

Indicate period: 12 ☐ 18 ☐ 24 ☐ months **paid monthly.**

Send to: Gunsport, 125/127 Wellgate, Rotherham.

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TOP SELLING ACCESSORY LINES — MAIL ORDER OR CALL IN. PHONE FOR AVAILABILITY AS STOCK CHANGES REGULARLY

Lanes Pellet Clip .177/.22 Pellet holder	£2.99
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Abbey Honing Paste (Metal Polish) tub	£1.00
Leather Sling, adj. with lining	£3.90
Steel Sling Swivel Set (state rifle)	£4.95
Ballistic Putty for testing (1/2 lb)	£2.00
Latest Beeman Catalogue (No. 11)	£1.50
Hypo Needle Applicator	£1.30
Beeman Muzzle Weight (FWB/45 etc)	£5.00
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Abbey Silicone Cloth	£1.25
Zipper rifle/scope case deluxe	£12.95
LT2 Moly Grease for springs	£1.45
SM50 Moly Lube	£1.45
Silicone No. 35 Oil (bottle)	£1.70
Anti-Rebound 6 1/4" Sq. Target Holder	£8.95
NSRA Size 6 1/4" Sq. Target Cards 100	£2.00
(State 6Y or 10M Rifle or Pistol) 1000	£16.00
Cleaning Kit (combined .177 & .22)	£5.25
Discofelt Cleaning Pellets (.177 or .22)	£1.40
Leather Sling, adj. length	£2.45
Ventilated Recoil Pad with screws	£3.50
.177 Cleaning Kit (rod, mop, brush)	£3.20
Caseys Re-Blueing Kit	£8.50
Caseys Stock Re-Finishing Kit	£8.50
Loctite (for loose screws)	£1.55
Philips Gun Blue Cream (pot)	£1.20
Beeman Pellet Seater	£4.75
Leather Tempest/Scorpion/Jumbo Holster	£6.25
Pneumatic Rifle Oil	.95
Universal Spring Compressor	£20.00
Cleaner/Degreaser	£2.25
Blu-Gel (Tube)	£1.85
Tru-Oil Stock Finish (bottle)	£2.60
Universal Arrestor Block	£3.50
Beeman Spring Oil	£2.70

Beeman .177/.22 Cleaning Patches	£1.10
Beeman Chamber Oil	£2.55
Beeman Ultra-Lube	£1.80
Beeman Mainspring Compound	£2.75
Beeman Metalophilic Oil	£1.45
Abbey Maintenance Kit	£6.75
BSA Recoil Pad (fits Innova)	£3.25
Dayglow Targets (self-stick) 40	.65
CO ₂ Powerlets (12gr) Crosman (5)	£2.35
Jackal Pellet Dispenser	£1.00
Gunsmith Screwdriver Set (8 piece)	£12.99
Abbey Silicone Valve Grease	£1.75
Airgun Oil	.80
Waterproof Rifle Bag (only) + Sling	£4.00
New high power BSA Meteor spring	£4.00
Tasco 654W W/A Scope 2 1/2 x 32	£45.00
7 x 5 quality binoculars	£30.00
Tasco 654W W/A Scope 2 1/2 x 32	£30.00
Wesley Muzzle Protector 15 or 16mm	£1.20
BSA pellet sizer .177 or .22	£2.50
Full range Ox mainsprings	£8.25
Feinwerkbau rearsight replacement plate	£1.50
Full range Sportsmatch mounts	from £5.99

M.A.G. EXCLUSIVE: Our own top quality top power 'FSR' Replacement Mainsprings. Swedish Silicon chrome steel, shot peened. No better value anywhere. **ONLY £5 EACH**
Suit the following: Feinwerkbau 124/7, Wesley Vulcan/Viscount etc; Original 45 New 50; BSA Mercury and Airsporter; HW 35 Series; HW 80; HW 77.
All other mainsprings and loads of spares ex-stock — Give us a try!

S/H SELECTION:	
Original 66 Recoilless Rifle	£125.00
Air Match Side-Lever Pistol	£125.00
F.A.S. 604 Medium Match Pistol	£125.00
FWB 65 Pistol (cased)	£120.00
FWB 300S Rifle. Still boxed	£185.00
BSA Airsporters .22 Mark I	from £50.00
BSA Airsporters .22 Mark II	from £45.00
Pre-War Tell .177 Rifle	£40.00
Pre-War BSA .177 Rifle	£45.00
Anshutz 335 .22 as new	£55.00
HW 80 .22/.177	from £70.00
Original M50	from £60.00
BSA Mercury 'S' .22	£62.00
BSA Airsporter .22	from £40.00
HW 35 Exports	from £70.00
BSA Mercury .177	£42.00
HW 35 Luxus (Walnut) .177	£70.00
Wesley Vulcans Mk.II .22	from £55.00
Feinwerkbau Sports	from £70.00
Vulcan Deluxe .22	£65.00
Ensign Elite Kit .22	£125.00
Sharp Innovas .22	from £45.00
Weihrach HW 35	from £50.00
Wesley Tempest .22	£30.00
Tasco 694W 3-9x50 FM	£50.00
Tasco 4x32	£23.00
Original 45 .177	£60.00

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Collections bought and sold. Part exchanges a pleasure. 700 airguns and 5 million pellets to choose from! Chrono testing, servicing and repairs to all makes.

All prices include VAT and postage — cheques and P.O.s only please.
85 types of pellet in stock! Send two stamps for price list showing weights and shapes.

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HW35 Std .177 or .22 22" + Handbook + free swivel set	£ 68.95
HW80 .177 or .22 R/H + Handbook	£ 89.50
HW80 .177 or .22 L/H + Handbook	£101.50
HW35 Export .177 or .22 R/H Handbook + free issue	£ 94.50
HW35 Export .177 or .22 L/H Handbook + free issue	£106.50
New HW77 Underlever .177 or .22	£ 99.50

FREE OFFER In addition to the selected walnut stock and power specification, the gun as supplied by us comes complete with gun sling. We also provide 200 H & N so that you have the World's finest pellet and 40x5 bull targets. We also exclusively supply a free handbook on the HW35 E written by a well-known authority on the gun. And with every gun comes a £3 voucher off the cost of your first annual OPTI-TUNE and service. All in all, we believe this adds up to a fantastic offer **WORTH OVER £10**.

WEIHRACH Target

HW55 MM match target + Handbook	£106.50
HW55 T match target + Handbook	£137.50
HW55 match target + Handbook	£155.00

£3 OPTI-TUNE Voucher towards your first annual service

10% OFF any items ordered with any gun in any of our advertisements.

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Plaited leather gun sling with adjustable buckles	£5.50
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(Guaranteed to full specification. Backed by spares and expert service.)	
FWB 124 Sport De Luxe .177 R/H (metal triggers, etc) + Handbook	£104.50
FWB 127 Sport De Luxe .22 R/H (metal triggers, etc) + Handbook	£104.50
FWB 124 or 127 Sport De Luxe L/H	add £12.00

FEINWERKBAU Target

FWB 300S match Rifle — R/H Walnut stock	£220.00
FWB 300S match Rifle — R/H Thumbhole stock	£220.00
FWB 300SU Rifle — R/H Walnut stock	£265.00
FWB 65 Pistol — R/H Walnut Grip	£190.00
FWB 65 Pistol — R/H Anatomical Grip	£195.00
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L/H versions of any of the above target rifles and pistols	add £20.00

All guns are guaranteed brand new and fully complete with all standard equipment, and factory fresh in manufacturers' boxes.

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Weihrauch 35 Export .22 or .177 (specify)	£ 94.50
Left hand stock option	£106.50
Gun sling, plaited leather, adjustable buckle	£ 5.50
Weihrauch Diopter peep sight	£ 26.95
GC1 Gun Cover with handle (leather fittings)	£ 6.50
Special De Luxe Gun Cover, fleece lined, zippered full length (will take all scopes)	£ 14.25
H & N .22 Diabolo Pellets — tins 200	£ 1.55
Silencer, muzzle slide on type	£ 16.50

RECOMMENDED "ROUND-THCLOCK" COMBINATIONS



WEIHRACH HW35E .22 or .177 with 4x32W RIFlescope & 9R MOUNTS, GC5 GUN COVER & GS1 PLAID SLING

NIGHT-AND-DAY FEINWERKBAU FWB 124 (.177) or 127 (.22) with Z45 "MOONLIGHTER" RIFlescope & 9H MOUNTS, GC5 GUN COVER and GS1 PLAID SLING

NIGHT SPECIAL WEIHRACH HW35 STD. 19" .22 or .177 with Z56 "SUPER MOONLIGHTER" RIFlescope & 9HR MOUNTS, GC5 GUN COVER and GS1 PLAID SLING

THE OPTIMA GC5 GUN COVER included with all combinations

FANTASTIC
VALUE BOUGHT
SEPARATELY

IRRESISTABLE
COMBO PRICE

£166.00 **£148**

A SAVING OF £18.00

£188.00 **£168**

A SAVING OF £20.00

£182.95 **£159**

A SAVING OF £23.95

OTHER POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS

(Gun cover and sling included). NB. L/H Versions: HW35E add £12.00 FWB 124/127 & HW80 add £12.00

	DAWN TO DUSK OPTIMA 4x32W SCOPE	NIGHT & DAY OPTIMA Z45 MOONLIGHTER	NIGHT SPECIAL OPTIMA Z56 SUPER MOONLIGHTER
WEIHRACH HW35E or FEINWERKBAU FWB 124/127 .177 or .22	£148	£168	£189
WEIHRACH HW80 .177 or .22	£143	£161	£185
WEIHRACH HW35 STD 22" .177 or .22	£123	£141	£159

PROTECT YOUR RIFLE WITH AN OPTIMA GUN COVER

OPTIMA GC3

Strong PVC brown leather finish. Real leather handles and fittings. Luxurious nylon fleece lined. Full length zip. Will take O/A length 51" (130cm). Width 9" (23cm)

£14.25

Matching Sling
£2.50

OPTIMA GC5

This new Optima Rifle Cover is made of strong PVC with brown leather graining. Real leather handles, sling fittings and hanging-hook are fitted, with heavy duty zip giving full-length, speedy access.

£21.95

NEW — GC5X with extra deep cut for scopes over 45mm **£24.75**

Matching Sling **£2.50**

OPTIMA TELESCOPIC SIGHTS

When we first decided to offer telescopic sights to our customers we were determined to provide the highest quality possible... at a reasonable price. We tested them all. Then we decided to specify our own to achieve all the qualities we ourselves knew that British shooters were looking for in their perfect sight. Consequently, we went to one of Japan's top optical manufacturers and the results are that Optima and only Optima can now offer this superb range of amazing value-for-money prices. Don't be misled. Despite the low prices Optima sights with their precision optics and sturdy construction are as good as any other make on the market. We guarantee it with a money back pledge!

Model 432W 4x32 Panoramic with No. 15 Dual-X reticule	£31.00
Model 440W 4x40 Panoramic with No. 15 Dual-X reticule	£35.00
Model 240W 3-9x40 Panoramic Zoom with No. 15 Dual-X reticule (Fully variable between 3 & 9 magnification)	£45.00
Model 245 3-9x45 Standard Zoom with No. 15 Dual-X reticule (Fully variable between 3 & 9 magnification)	£54.50
with parallax adjustment	£59.50
Model 256 3-9x56 Standard with No. 15 Dual-X reticule (Fully variable between 3 & 9 magnification)	£71.50
with parallax adjustment	£76.50

SCOPE SPECIFICATIONS

Model No	Power x Obj Aperture	Field of View at 100yds(ft)	Luminosity	Eye Relief (inch)	Tube Dia. (inch)	Type of Adjustment Click (inch)	Length (inch)	Weight (oz)	Lenses (pcs)
432W	Wide Field 4x32	37	64.0	3.3	1	1/4	11.8	10.5	9
440W	Wide Field 4x40	37	100.0	3.8	1	1/4	12.4	12.0	9
240W	Wide Field 3-9x40	42-14	177.8-19.7	3.1-2.5	1	1/4	12.9	13.4	10
245	3-9x45	37-13	225-25	3.7-2.9	1	1/4	12.8	15.8	10
256	3-9x56	35-12	348.4-38.7	18.8-3	1	1/4	13.6	26.0	10



Parallax-adjusted for either Firearms (50 yds — infinity) or Air Rifles (0-60 yds) State which with order. All models have multi-component lenses made of finest quality optic glass — All Components Fully Coated. Note: Prices shown are for scope only and do not include mounts.

NON-CREEP MOUNTS

Standard

(For use with scopes up to 40mm objective lens) Supplied in these sizes:
Mod 9 Fits 9mm gun rails **£6.75**
Mod 11 Fits 11mm gun rails **£6.75**
Mod 12 Fits 12mm gun rails **£6.75**
For Weihrauch Rifles there are two special models:
Mod 9R Comp with retaining pin Fits 9mm gun rails **£7.90**
Mod 12R Comp with retaining pin Fits 12mm gun rails **£7.90**

High Elevation

For scopes over 40mm objective lens eg Moonlighter
Mod 9H Fits 9mm gun rails **£7.50**
Mod 11H Fits 11mm gun rails **£7.50**
Mod 12H Fits 12mm gun rails **£7.50**
For Weihrauch Rifles there are two special models:
Mod 9HR Comp with retaining pin Fits 9mm gun rails **£8.50**
Mod 12HR Comp with retaining pin Fits 12mm gun rails **£8.50**

Extra High Elevation also available

We offer a Professional Mail Order only service. Immediate despatch. Prices are fully inclusive of p. & p., ins., etc. Full refund if not delighted upon receipt. Send cheque/P.O. with order, stating "over 17" and whether .177 or .22 required to Dept. AGW8/84



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CREDIT EXAMPLE

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A fixed barrel sporter with a
fully opening direct loading
breach, simply the finest
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HW80 BREAK BARREL

£89.00

HW80 the best selling
air rifle ever made.
Powerful, extremely
accurate and consistent.
More sporting competitions
have been won with this
rifle than any other.



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HW55T is fitted with a
selected walnut stock and a
beautifully carved Tyrolean
cheek piece. The barrel
locking device is the best
available. The gun is very
smooth operating and is
almost recoilless.



SPECIAL OFFER AIRGUNS

Ensign Elite.....	£169.00
Ensign Royale.....	£240.00
Weihrauch HW50.....	£55.00
Weihrauch HW35 STD.....	£65.00
Weihrauch HW35 D/Luxe.....	£89.00
Weihrauch HW35E.....	£89.00
Weihrauch HW80.....	89.00
Weihrauch HW55T.....	£129.00
FWB Sport De Luxe MK II.....	£95.00
FWB Sport De Luxe Mk II L/H.....	£115.00
FWB 300 SU.....	£207.00
FWB Model 80 match Pistol.....	£215.00
Original Model 45.....	£83.00
Original Model 75.....	£226.00
Original Model 75 UTO1.....	£292.00
Original Model 5G Pistol.....	£50.00
Original Model 6G Pistol.....	£77.00
Original Model 6M Pistol.....	£89.00
Original Model 10 Pistol.....	£204.00
BSA Meteor.....	£39.00
BSA Meteor Super.....	£42.00
BSA Mercury.....	£59.00
BSA Mercury Super.....	£75.00
BSA Airsporter.....	£79.00
BSA Airsporter Super.....	£99.00
BSA Scorpion Pistol.....	£39.00

Webley Please phone for best prices

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RWS 45.....	£85.00
Sharp Innova.....	£65.00
Sharp Ace.....	£103.00
FAS 604 Air Pistol.....	£169.00

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4 x 45.....	£32.85
3.9 x 45.....	£45.00

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Feinwerkbau Sport Venom.....	£118.00
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Weihrauch HW35 D/L Venom.....	£118.00
Weihrauch HW35E Venom.....	£112.00
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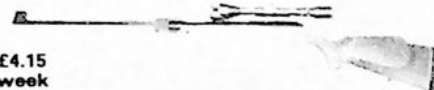
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£4.36
week

£211 or £22 deposit £4.36 week

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1 PIECE MOUNT



£4.15
week

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£6.99
week

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WEBLEY TRACKER: Tasco FM 4x32
1 PIECE MOUNT



£3.26
week

£158 or £16 deposit £3.26 week

ENSIGN ELITE: TASO 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE
1 PIECE MOUNT



£5.20
week

£252 or £26 deposit £5.20 week

WEIHRACH 77 fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £211 or £22 deposit £4.36 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £204 or £21 deposit £4.22 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £198 or £20 deposit £4.09 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £187 or £19 deposit £3.86 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £19 deposit £3.72 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £176 or £18 deposit £3.64 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £231 or £24 deposit £4.77 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £215 or £22 deposit £4.44 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £209 or £21 deposit £4.25 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £19 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £178 or £18 deposit £3.88 week

FEINWERKBAU SPORT

MkII fitted with:
TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £219 or £22 deposit £4.52 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £212 or £22 deposit £4.38 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £206 or £21 deposit £4.28 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £196 or £20 deposit £4.02 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £193 or £20 deposit £3.98 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £19 deposit £3.80 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £228 or £24 deposit £4.83 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £223 or £23 deposit £4.80 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £214 or £22 deposit £4.42 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £181 or £20 deposit £3.84 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £19 deposit £3.84 week

WEBLEY TRACKER fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £193 or £20 deposit £3.88 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £19 deposit £3.84 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £18 deposit £3.71 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £189 or £17 deposit £3.48 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £187 or £17 deposit £3.46 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £158 or £16 deposit £3.26 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £213 or £22 deposit £4.40 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £188 or £19 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £183 or £17 deposit £3.86 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £17 deposit £3.40 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £16 deposit £3.30 week

WEIHRACH 77 CARBINE fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £211 or £22 deposit £4.36 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £204 or £21 deposit £4.22 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £198 or £20 deposit £4.09 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £187 or £19 deposit £3.86 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £19 deposit £3.72 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £176 or £18 deposit £3.64 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £231 or £24 deposit £4.77 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £215 or £22 deposit £4.44 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £209 or £21 deposit £4.25 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £19 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £178 or £18 deposit £3.88 week

THEOBEN SIROCCO deluxe fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT SIROCCO MOUNTS £219 or £24 deposit £6.99 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £212 or £23 deposit £6.75 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 SIROCCO MOUNTS £206 or £21 deposit £6.63 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £196 or £21 deposit £6.40 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 SIROCCO MOUNTS £193 or £20 deposit £6.36 week
TASCO FM 4x32 SIROCCO MOUNTS £184 or £20 deposit £6.17 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN SIROCCO MOUNTS £228 or £26 deposit £7.08 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN SIROCCO MOUNTS £223 or £26 deposit £7.31 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM SIROCCO MOUNTS £214 or £24 deposit £6.83 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £181 or £23 deposit £6.83 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £186 or £23 deposit £6.83 week

WEBLEY VULCAN DELUXE fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £193 or £20 deposit £3.88 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £19 deposit £3.84 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £18 deposit £3.71 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £189 or £17 deposit £3.48 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £187 or £17 deposit £3.46 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £158 or £16 deposit £3.26 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £213 or £22 deposit £4.40 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £188 or £19 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £183 or £17 deposit £3.86 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £17 deposit £3.40 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £16 deposit £3.30 week

WEIHRACH EXPORT fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £207 or £21 deposit £4.28 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £20 deposit £4.11 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £194 or £20 deposit £4.01 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £183 or £19 deposit £3.78 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £181 or £19 deposit £3.74 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £182 or £17 deposit £3.38 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £217 or £22 deposit £4.48 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £201 or £21 deposit £4.18 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £20 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £17 deposit £3.48 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £17 deposit £3.38 week

THEOBEN SIROCCO std fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT SIROCCO MOUNTS £269 or £29 deposit £9.97 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £271 or £29 deposit £9.72 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 SIROCCO MOUNTS £271 or £29 deposit £9.59 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £268 or £26 deposit £9.37 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 SIROCCO MOUNTS £240 or £25 deposit £9.14 week
TASCO FM 4x32 SIROCCO MOUNTS £230 or £23 deposit £8.38 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN SIROCCO MOUNTS £233 or £23 deposit £8.38 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN SIROCCO MOUNTS £234 or £23 deposit £8.38 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM SIROCCO MOUNTS £231 or £27 deposit £8.39 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE SIROCCO MOUNTS £251 or £26 deposit £8.18 week

BSA AIRSPORTER S fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £219 or £22 deposit £4.52 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £212 or £22 deposit £4.38 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £206 or £21 deposit £4.28 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £196 or £20 deposit £4.02 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £193 or £20 deposit £3.98 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £19 deposit £3.80 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £228 or £24 deposit £4.83 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £223 or £23 deposit £4.80 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £214 or £22 deposit £4.42 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £181 or £20 deposit £3.84 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £19 deposit £3.84 week

WEIHRACH 80 fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £197 or £20 deposit £4.07 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £19 deposit £3.83 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £19 deposit £3.80 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £173 or £18 deposit £3.58 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £171 or £18 deposit £3.53 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £162 or £17 deposit £3.36 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £217 or £22 deposit £4.48 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £201 or £21 deposit £4.18 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £20 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £17 deposit £3.48 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £17 deposit £3.38 week

SHARP ACE fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £214 or £22 deposit £4.42 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £207 or £21 deposit £4.27 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £201 or £21 deposit £4.15 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £19 deposit £3.92 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £18 deposit £3.71 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £171 or £18 deposit £3.53 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £224 or £24 deposit £4.83 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £218 or £22 deposit £4.50 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £209 or £21 deposit £4.31 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £186 or £19 deposit £3.84 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £181 or £19 deposit £3.74 week

BSA MERCURY S fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £188 or £19 deposit £3.88 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £181 or £19 deposit £3.84 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £175 or £18 deposit £3.71 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £164 or £17 deposit £3.38 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £162 or £17 deposit £3.40 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £153 or £16 deposit £3.18 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £208 or £21 deposit £4.29 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £192 or £21 deposit £3.96 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £183 or £19 deposit £3.78 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £160 or £16 deposit £3.30 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £156 or £16 deposit £3.20 week

WEIHRACH 80 CARBINE fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £197 or £20 deposit £4.07 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £19 deposit £3.83 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £19 deposit £3.80 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £173 or £18 deposit £3.58 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £171 or £18 deposit £3.53 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £162 or £17 deposit £3.36 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £217 or £22 deposit £4.48 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £201 or £21 deposit £4.18 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £190 or £20 deposit £3.87 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £17 deposit £3.48 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £17 deposit £3.38 week

SHARP INNOVA fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £17 deposit £3.38 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £157 or £18 deposit £3.24 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £151 or £16 deposit £3.11 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £140 or £14 deposit £2.88 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £136 or £14 deposit £2.86 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £129 or £13 deposit £2.66 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £18 deposit £3.80 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £125 or £14 deposit £4.81 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £120 or £11 deposit £3.28 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £136 or £14 deposit £2.88 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £131 or £14 deposit £2.70 week

ORIGINAL MOD 50 fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £229 or £23 deposit £4.72 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £222 or £23 deposit £4.11 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £216 or £22 deposit £4.48 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £206 or £21 deposit £4.23 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £203 or £21 deposit £4.19 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £194 or £20 deposit £4.01 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £224 or £25 deposit £4.81 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £224 or £24 deposit £4.82 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £219 or £21 deposit £4.18 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £191 or £21 deposit £4.04 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £196 or £16 deposit £3.22 week

GALWAY FIELDMASTER fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £475 or £48 deposit £9.81 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £468 or £47 deposit £9.66 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £461 or £47 deposit £9.54 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £451 or £46 deposit £9.31 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £440 or £45 deposit £9.27 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £440 or £44 deposit £9.08 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £429 or £46 deposit £9.58 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £429 or £46 deposit £9.58 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £429 or £47 deposit £9.71 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £447 or £45 deposit £9.23 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £447 or £45 deposit £9.13 week

ENSIGN ELITE fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £250 or £26 deposit £9.35 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £252 or £26 deposit £9.50 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £246 or £25 deposit £9.08 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £235 or £24 deposit £8.85 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £233 or £24 deposit £8.81 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £224 or £23 deposit £8.62 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £279 or £28 deposit £9.78 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £263 or £27 deposit £8.43 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £254 or £26 deposit £8.24 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £231 or £24 deposit £8.77 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £226 or £23 deposit £8.47 week

ORIGINAL MOD 45 fitted with:

TASCO FM 3.9x50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT £180 or £19 deposit £3.81 week
TASCO FM 2.7x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £182 or £19 deposit £3.78 week
TASCO FM 1.75x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £176 or £18 deposit £3.63 week
TASCO FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £165 or £17 deposit £3.41 week
TASCO FM 2.7x40 1 PIECE MOUNT £163 or £17 deposit £3.36 week
TASCO FM 4x32 1 PIECE MOUNT £154 or £16 deposit £3.18 week
ASI FM 4x12-56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £200 or £21 deposit £4.31 week
ASI FM 3.9x56 DUSK/DAWN 1 PIECE MOUNT £193 or £20 deposit £3.96 week
ASI FM 3.9x45 ZOOM 1 PIECE MOUNT £184 or £19 deposit £3.80 week
ASI FM 4x40 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £161 or £17 deposit £3.32 week
ASI FM 4x32 WIDE ANGLE 1 PIECE MOUNT £156 or £16 deposit £3.22 week

WEIHRACH 77 CUSTOM



£199 or £20 deposit £4.11 week

WEIHRACH 80 CUSTOM: Tasco FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT 1 PIECE MOUNT



£278 or £28 deposit £5.74 week

(Credit over 12 months)

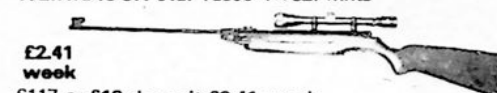
WEIHRACH 77 CUSTOM

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£289 or £29	£5.97	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£266 or £27	£5.47	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£296 or £30	£8.09	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£263 or £27	£5.43	

WEIHRACH 80 CUSTOM

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£278 or £28	£5.74	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£254 or £26	£5.24	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£284 or £29	£8.06	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£252 or £26	£5.20	

WEIHRACH std: Tasco 4 x 32: mnts



£241 week
£117 or £12 deposit £2.41 week

(Credit over 12 months)

	TASCO 4 x 32	MNTS	DEP	PER
WEIHRACH 77	£156 or £16	£3.30		
WEIHRACH EXPORT	£151 or £16	£3.11		
WEIHRACH 80	£141 or £16	£2.81		
WEIHRACH Std	£137 or £12	£2.41		
FEINWERKBAU SPORT	£164 or £17	£3.38		
ORIGINAL mod 50	£174 or £18	£3.68		
ORIGINAL mod 45	£134 or £14	£2.78		
SHARP INNOVA	£108 or £11	£2.23		
ENSGN ELITE	£205 or £21	£4.23		
ANSCHUTZ	£136 or £14	£2.78		

AIR RIFLES: (Credit over 12 months)

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
WEIHRACH 77	£119 or £12	deposit £2.45 week	
WEIHRACH EXPORT	£115 or £12	deposit £2.37 week	
WEIHRACH 80	£105 or £11	deposit £2.16 week	
WEIHRACH Std	£82 or £9	deposit £1.68 week	
WEIHRACH 77 CARBINE	£119 or £12	deposit £2.45 week	
WEIHRACH 80 CARBINE	£105 or £11	deposit £2.16 week	
ORIGINAL mod 50	£136 or £14	deposit £2.80 week	
ORIGINAL mod 45	£96 or £10	deposit £1.98 week	
THEOBEN SIROCCO deluxe	£208 or £21	deposit £4.29 week	
THEOBEN SIROCCO Std	£175 or £18	deposit £3.61 week	

TELESCOPIC SIGHTS: (Credit over 12 months)

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO PARALLAX CORRECTING FM SCOPES, SATIN FINISH			
FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT ZOOM	£74 or £8	deposit £1.52 week	
FM 2-7 x 32 WIDE ANGLE	£87 or £7	deposit £1.38 week	
FM 1.75 x 40 ZOOM	£81 or £7	deposit £1.28 week	
FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£50 or £5	deposit £1.09 week	
FM 2.75 x 40 ZOOM	£48 or £5	deposit £1.05 week	
FM 4 x 32	£39 or £4	deposit £0.91 week	

TARGET RIFLES & PISTOLS (Credit over 12 months)

	R/H	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
FEINWERKBAU 300S UNIVERSAL	L/H	£315 or £32	deposit £6.50 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S UNIVERSAL	L/H	£337 or £34	deposit £6.96 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S MATCH	R/H	£273 or £28	deposit £5.64 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S MATCH	L/H	£292 or £30	deposit £6.03 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S JUNIOR	R/H	£246 or £25	deposit £5.08 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S JUNIOR	L/H	£266 or £27	deposit £5.49 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S Running Target	R/H	£258 or £26	deposit £5.33 week	
FEINWERKBAU 300S Running Target	L/H	£295 or £30	deposit £6.09 week	
ORIGINAL mod 75		£260 or £27	deposit £5.37 week	
ORIGINAL mod 75 UTO1		£315 or £32	deposit £6.50 week	
ORIGINAL mod 75 KTO1 R/BOAR		£299 or £30	deposit £6.17 week	
ANSCHUTZ LG 380		£431 or £44	deposit £8.90 week	
ASI MC SUPER		£159 or £16	deposit £3.28 week	

PISTOLS:

	R/H	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
FEINWERKBAU 66 WALNUT GRIP	L/H	£216 or £22	deposit £4.46 week	
FEINWERKBAU 66 WALNUT GRIP	L/H	£221 or £23	deposit £4.56 week	
FEINWERKBAU 66 Anatomical	R/H	£237 or £24	deposit £4.89 week	
FEINWERKBAU 66 Anatomical	L/H	£248 or £25	deposit £5.12 week	
FEINWERKBAU 80 Anatomical	R/H	£249 or £25	deposit £5.14 week	
FEINWERKBAU 80 Anatomical	L/H	£259 or £26	deposit £5.36 week	
FEINWERKBAU 90 Electronic anat	R/H	£289 or £29	deposit £5.97 week	
FEINWERKBAU 90 Electronic anat	L/H	£299 or £30	deposit £6.17 week	
ORIGINAL mod 8G	R/H	£92 or £10	deposit £1.90 week	
ORIGINAL mod 8G	L/H	£96 or £10	deposit £1.98 week	
ORIGINAL mod 8M	R/H	£99 or £10	deposit £2.04 week	
ORIGINAL mod 8M	L/H	£103 or £11	deposit £2.12 week	
ORIGINAL mod 10 cased	R/H	£229 or £23	deposit £4.73 week	
ORIGINAL mod 10 cased	L/H	£240 or £24	deposit £4.95 week	
ORIGINAL mod 10 uncased	R/H	£205 or £21	deposit £4.23 week	
ORIGINAL mod 10 uncased	L/H	£215 or £22	deposit £4.44 week	
AIR MATCH 'deluxe' cased model		£295 or £30	deposit £6.09 week	
FAS MATCH PISTOL		£185 or £19	deposit £3.82 week	

CUSTOM GUNS & COMBINATIONS

These guns are fitted with either a **TYROLEAN** or **SPORTER** style French Walnut custom stock and feature full chequering with an oil finish. (Please state the style you require when ordering). These super **CUSTOM** guns are available on their own or as a combination with either a **TASCO** or **ASI** FM scope. To eliminate any scope creep each outfit comes complete with a **1 PIECE MOUNT**.

(Credit over 12 months)

WEBLEY TRACKER CUSTOM

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£252 or £26	£5.20	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£228 or £23	£4.71	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£258 or £26	£5.33	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£226 or £23	£4.66	

WEBLEY VISCOUNT CUSTOM

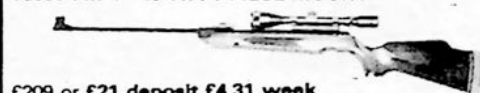
	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£248 or £25	£5.12	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£224 or £23	£4.62	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£254 or £26	£5.24	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£222 or £23	£4.58	

WEBLEY VISCOUNT CUSTOM (Tyrolean stock)



£158 or £16 deposit £3.26 week

WEBLEY VULCAN CUSTOM (Sporter stock) Tasco FM 4 x 40 WA 1 PIECE MOUNT



£209 or £21 deposit £4.31 week

(Credit over 12 months)

WEBLEY VULCAN CUSTOM

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£233 or £24	£4.81	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£209 or £21	£4.31	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£238 or £24	£4.93	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£207 or £21	£4.27	

FEINWERKBAU SPORT MkII CUSTOM

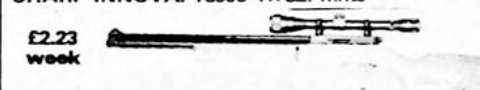
	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
TASCO FM 3-9 x 50 DAY & NIGHT	£299 or £30	£8.17	
TASCO FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£275 or £28	£6.68	
ASI FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN	£305 or £31	£8.30	
ASI FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£273 or £28	£6.64	

ECONOMY OUTFITS

THESE ECONOMY OUTFITS ALL FITTED WITH A

TASCO 4 x 32 sight and mounts

SHARP INNOVA: Tasco 4 x 32: mnts



£223 week
£108 or £11 deposit £2.23 week

(Credit over 12 months)

	TASCO 4 x 32	MNTS	DEP	PER
BSA AIRSPORTER S	£105 or £17	£3.40		
BSA AIRSPORTER S	£143 or £18	£2.86		
BSA MERCURY S	£132 or £14	£2.72		
BSA MERCURY	£113 or £12	£2.33		
BSA SUPER METEOR	£92 or £10	£1.80		
BSA METEOR	£86 or £9	£1.78		
ASI MAGNUM	£85 or £9	£1.82		
ASI STATICAL	£89 or £9	£1.83		
ASI SNIPER	£89 or £9	£1.82		
BAVARIA VENOM	£246 or £25	£5.06		

(Credit over 12 months)

	TASCO 4 x 32	MNTS	DEP	PER
WEBLEY TRACKER	£137 or £14	£2.83		
WEBLEY VISCOUNT	£133 or £14	£2.74		
WEBLEY VULCAN deluxe	£119 or £12	£2.46		
WEBLEY VULCAN	£98 or £10	£2.04		
WEBLEY VICTOR	£108 or £11	£2.28		
WEBLEY BEEMAN	£92 or £10	£1.82		
CROSMAN WOODSTOCK	£73 or £8	£1.80		
CROSMAN 700	£83 or £9	£1.71		
CROSMAN MAGNUM	£98 or £10	£2.04		
CROSMAN Mod 1				

FEINWERKBAU SPORT MKII

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
WEBLEY BEEMAN CI CARBINE	£69 or £7	deposit £1.42 week	
WEBLEY VISCOUNT	£97 or £10	deposit £2.00 week	
WEBLEY TRACKER	£99 or £10	deposit £2.04 week	
WEBLEY VULCAN deluxe	£99 or £10	deposit £2.04 week	
WEBLEY VULCAN	£79 or £8	deposit £1.63 week	
WEBLEY VICTOR	£59 or £6	deposit £1.21 week	
BSA AIRSPORTER S	£129 or £13	deposit £2.66 week	
BSA AIRSPORTER	£107 or £11	deposit £2.21 week	
BSA MERCURY S	£98 or £10	deposit £1.98 week	
BSA MERCURY	£77 or £8	deposit £1.58 week	
BSA SUPER METEOR	£56 or £6	deposit £1.15 week	

GALWAY FIELDMASTER

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
ENSGN ROYALE	£249 or £25	deposit £5.18 week	
ENSGN ELITE	£189 or £17	deposit £3.80 week	
SHARP ACE	£119 or £12	deposit £2.46 week	
SHARP INNOVA	£72 or £8	deposit £1.48 week	
ASI MAGNUM	£55 or £6	deposit £1.18 week	
ASI STATICAL	£55 or £6	deposit £1.18 week	
CROSMAN MOD 1	£66 or £7	deposit £1.36 week	
CROSMAN WOODSTOCK	£59 or £6	deposit £1.28 week	
CROSMAN MAGNUM	£49 or £5	deposit £1.07 week	
BAVARIA VENOM	£199 or £20	deposit £4.11 week	
ANSCHUTZ 336	£98 or £10	deposit £2.04 week	

ASI SUPERSCOPIES -- PARALLAX ADJUSTMENT, INSTANT RANGE CALCULATOR, OPTICAL GLASS LENSES, NITROGEN FILLED, TINTED LENSES, WATERPROOF, MATT FINISH

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
FM 4-12 x 56 DUSK/DAWN ZOOM	£74 or £8	deposit £1.52 week	
FM 3-9 x 56 DUSK/DAWN ZOOM	£78 or £8	deposit £1.61 week	
FM 8 x 56	£71 or £8	deposit £1.46 week	
FM 6 x 56	£69 or £7	deposit £1.42 week	
FM 3-9 x 40 WIDE ANGLE ZOOM	£62 or £7	deposit £1.28 week	
FM 3-9 x 45 ZOOM	£68 or £7	deposit £1.40 week	
FM 3-9 x 32 WIDE ANGLE	£80 or £8	deposit £1.38 week	
FM 6 x 45	£58 or £6	deposit £1.19 week	
FM 4 x 40 WIDE ANGLE	£46 or £5	deposit £1.02 week	
FM 4 x 32 WIDE ANGLE	£42 or £5	deposit £0.94 week	
ELECTRO RED AM 4 x 40 WA 1 PIECE MOUNT (High)	£74 or £8	deposit £1.53 week	
	£18 or £2	deposit with a sight	

REPLICA GUNS

(Credit over 6 months. Written quotations on request)

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
HANDGUNS: (Blank firing)			
PPK CHROME FINISH 8mm	£79 or £16	deposit £2.90 week	
PPK 8mm	£69 or £14	deposit £2.53 week	
GOVERNMENT AUTO 8mm	£55 or £11	deposit £2.03 week	
COLT .380 ACP COMBAT 8mm	£79 or £16	deposit £2.90 week	
HSC MODEL 84 8mm	£89 or £18	deposit £3.27 week	
BABY AUTO 8mm	£55 or £11	deposit £2.03 week	
WEST GERMAN AUTO 8mm	£35 or £7	deposit £1.33 week	
PYTHON 4" (deluxe finish) 9mm	£35 or £7	deposit £1.33 week	
POLICE SNUB (deluxe finish) .22	£32 or £7	deposit £1.23 week	
POLICE SNUB (deluxe finish) 9mm	£32 or £7	deposit £1.23 week	
COLT TROOPER 6" or 8" .22 short	£25 or £5	deposit £0.96 week	
COLT PYTHON 2" 4" or 6" .22 short	£25 or £5	deposit £0.96 week	

WESTERN GUNS: (Blank firing)

	IPC MOUNT	DEP	PER
JAGER PEACEMAKER .22 & 9mm	£119 or £24	deposit £4.56 week	
JAGER engraved .22	£124 or £25	deposit £4.75 week	
SCHMIDT PEACEMAKER 5 1/2" .38	£99 or £20	deposit £3.79 week	
SCHMIDT PEACEMAKER 4 1/2" .22	£99 or £20	deposit £3.79 week	
PEACEMAKER 4 1/2" .22 short	£90 or £6	deposit £1.10 week	
COLT ARMY deactivated cap firing	£59 or £12	deposit £2.25 week	

SEND £1 & large SAE for Catalogue on

REPLICAS SHOTGUNS AIR RIFLES KNIVES SWORDS

Accessories etc

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only £79 or £16 deposit £2.90 week
Fires 8mm blanks fully self loading

THIS MAGNIFICENT REPLICA is finished in a high polished chrome with wood grips

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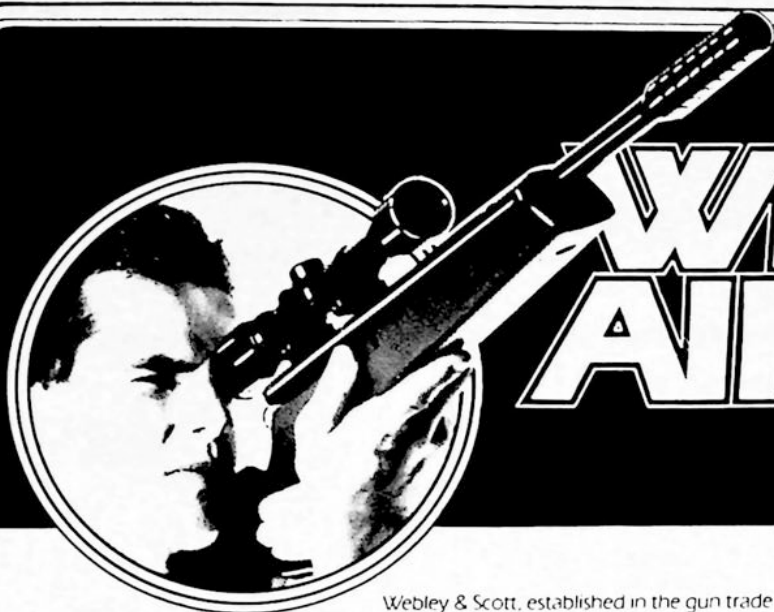
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WEBLEY AIRGUNS

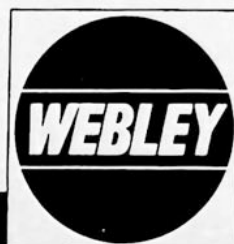
Webley & Scott, established in the gun trade since 1790, has been manufacturing quality spring airguns since the Mark I air pistol revolutionised airgun technology in 1924. So advanced was the design that 60 years later, incorporating modern materials, it is still proving to be a worldwide best seller in the familiar form of the Tempest and Hurricane air pistols.

Technological advances in design, materials and manufacturing techniques during the 1970's were dramatic, the old concept of the airgun as a toy, only capable of knocking over tin cans was shattered. Modern Webley spring-power air rifles incorporating the patented Webley double sealing piston system are consistent, powerful, accurate machines, capable of many thousands of shots, with minimal maintenance of operating to their full potential. Because of these developments, vast new possibilities for the air rifle as a cheap, effective and humane form of vermin control developed, from which evolved the fast growing sport of field target shooting.

Webley offers a comprehensive range of air rifles, which includes the full-power Vulcan air rifle with its three-year Supershield warranty, its smaller 'brother' the Victor air rifle, and the unique carbine-style Beeman C1 break-action air rifle. The Webley range also includes a number of full-power, fixed-barrel, side lever air rifles – the conventional form Viscount air rifle is complemented by a short barrelled version, the Tracker, which is fast becoming a favourite with many airgunners.

TRACKER AIR RIFLE With Custom Sporter Stock and Tasco 4 x 32 Riflescope

VULCAN AIR RIFLE With Custom Tyrolean Stock and Tasco 4 x 32 Riflescope

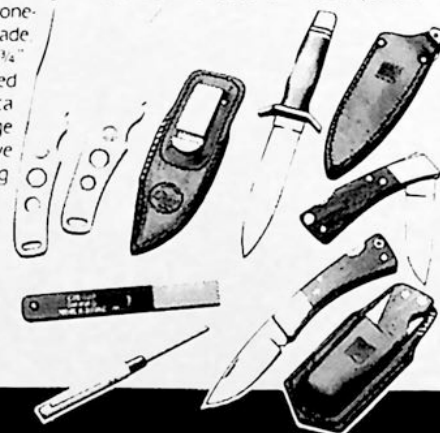


THE FAMOUS NAME IN AIRGUNS.

Webley & Scott Limited, Frankley Industrial Park,
Tay Road, Rubery, Birmingham B45 0PA Telephone: 021-453 1864. Telex: 337 339.
A Member of the Harris & Sheldon Group.

New for 1984 are Webley's oil-finished Walnut custom grade stocks for Vulcan, Viscount and Tracker air rifles. Available in two styles, Sporter and Tyrolean, custom stocks in left or right-hand configuration, give your Webley air rifle the feel and elegance of a top hunting rifle. Features include extended and rounded forend, full pistol grip with palm swell, ventilated recoil pad and hand chequering on the forend and pistol grip. In addition, the Sporter features a high comb roll-over Monte-Carlo cheek piece, whilst the Tyrolean has a well-rounded, full Tyrolean cheek piece. Quick to the shoulder, comfortable and well-balanced, Webley custom grade stocks add a new dimension to airgun shooting.

Also new is a range of hunting knives and diamond stone knife sharpeners. Models available include a one-piece drop point knife with 3 1/4" blade, a one-piece skinning knife with 3 1/4" blade, a sheath knife with a 4" double-edged blade and a folding knife with 4 1/2" long Pacca wood-covered handle and 3 1/4" double-wedge blade. All knives come complete with an attractive leather scabbard and boot or belt clip fitting.



THE AirGUN CENTRE

RIFLES

	Standard	Tuned	Custom
ENSIGN ELITE (COMPLETE)	£169.95	N/A	P.O.A.
(RIFLE ONLY NO CHARGING UNIT)	£99.50	N/A	
THEOBEN SIROCCO	£175.00	N/A	N/A
THEOBEN SIROCCO DE LUXE	£208.00	N/A	N/A
WEIHRAUCH HW77		£120.00	£165.00
WEIHRAUCH HW80	£85.00	£95.00	£140.00
WEIHRAUCH HW35 EXPORT	£89.50	£99.50	£145.00
WEIHRAUCH HW35 STANDARD	£62.50	£72.50	N/A
FEINWERKBAU SPORT DE LUXE MKII	£99.50	£109.50	£155.00
ORIGINAL 50 T01	£110.00	£120.00	£165.00
ORIGINAL 45	£75.00	£85.00	£135.00
WEBLEY VULCAN MKII	£64.50	£74.50	N/A
WEBLEY VULCAN MKII DE LUXE	£79.50	£89.50	N/A
BEEAMAN C1	£52.50	£62.50	£100.00
WEBLEY VICTOR	£47.50	£57.50	N/A
WEBLEY HURRICANE	£45.00	£55.00	N/A
WEBLEY TEMPEST	£40.00	£50.00	N/A

TASCO 'SCOPES

694WFM (3-9 x 50)	£61.00
626VFM (2-7 x 32 Wide Angle) ...	£59.95
615WFM (1.75-5 x 40)	£53.00
648WFM (4 x 40 Wide Angle)	£43.00
658WFM (2.75 x 40)	£42.00
663WFM (4 x 32)	£35.95
628V (3-9 x 40 Wide Angle) ...	£60.00
648V (4 x 40 Wide Angle)	£37.95
663A (4 x 32)	£27.50
605DV (4 x 20 Wide Angle with Mounts)	£10.95

Full range of APEL, RHINO & SPORTSMATCH Mounts at lowest prices.

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Clearly our long standing reputation in the field of Spring Air Weapon Tuning speaks for itself. All of our tuning work is guaranteed for life as well which shows the complete confidence we have in our work. The Airgun Centre Inspection and Test Certificate is returned to you with your tuned weapon which entitles you to FREE 6 monthly overhauls FOR LIFE — how much is that worth alone?

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The Editor says ...



This year's Game Fair at the end of July looks like being a sell-out. The event returns to the South of England for the first time in several years and as the site of Broadlands, Romsey, is reasonably close to a motorway and well served by major roads, the attendance could be a record one.

Airgun enthusiasts will find a great deal to interest them this year. In addition to all the weapons on display in gunmakers row and the various accessories on stands in other parts of the fair, there will be four different ranges on which you can try your skill to win some of the fabulous prizes being offered.

Airgun World will be there with many of our regular contributors and we would like to meet you. Our stand in G754 and is situated right next door to the target range. And we are offering a super bargain only obtainable at the Fair. Anyone who buys a year's subscription to the magazine during the three days gets the next 12 issues for the price of ten. We will also be selling T-shirts, badges, books and many other items and giving away targets and gun stickers.

We've previewed the Game Fair throughout this issue of the magazine so you can plan ahead and make the most of your time there. But if previous fairs are anything to go by it would be best to get there early. Breakfast is available from many of the catering marquees from an early hour and the airgun ranges are open from 9.30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

One good idea the organisers have instigated this year is the facility for buying your entrance tickets and programmes in advance. This should ease the traffic problems considerably. Full details on how to get them are given on page 33.

But there might be a bit of a wait on the ranges. The NSRA, who are organising all the air weapon events, tell me they expect about 7,500 shooters over the three days. So if you are hanging around waiting your turn, drop in at *Airgun World*.

Paul Ivall

AIRGUN WORLD

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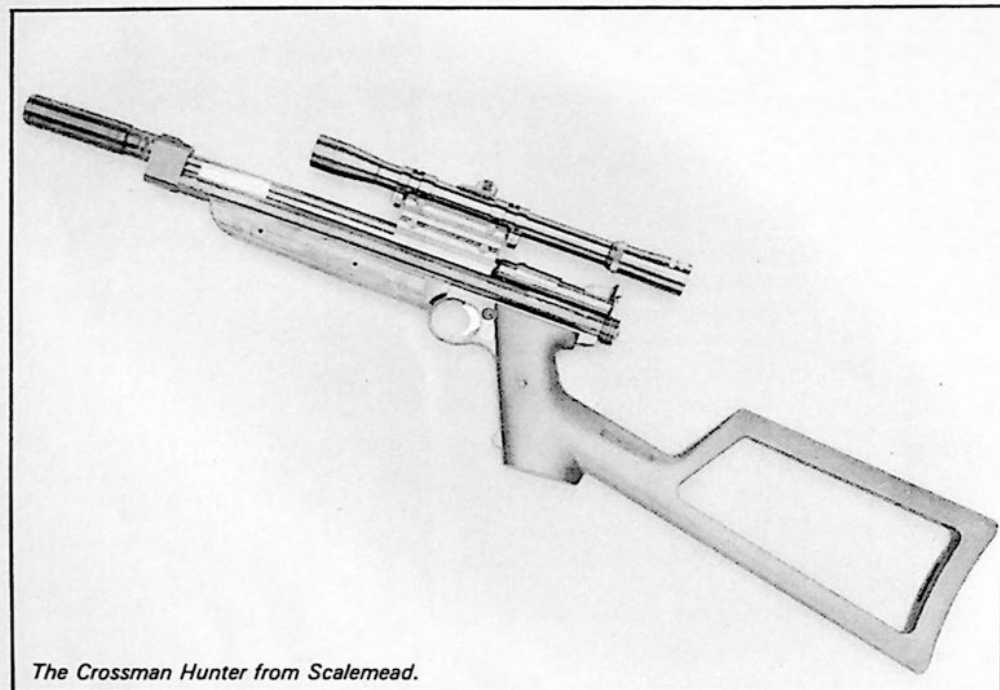
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COVER PHOTO: Arthur Shepherd

AIRGUN SCENE



The Crosman Hunter from Scalemead.

New Midlands shop

A new outfit has opened in the Midlands which should prove a real boon to airgunners.

Worcestershire Black Powder Supplies Ltd of Bewdley, cater for all types of shooting with a strong, impending bias towards repairs, and are now open seven days a week (including bank holidays). Their main impetus, at present, is towards airgunners and shotgunners, in addition to which they offer a free chrono service for airguns.

Their first major service is to repair the Webley Vulcan/Victor and BSA range, with regard to permanent repair to the breech jaw pin. This service does not affect

the external appearance of the gun and will cost £15 plus £3.50 p + p.

Included in the basic repair is an overhaul, but new parts, if required, are extra. Worcestershire Black Powder Supplies Ltd are at Units 15-17, Brunel Craft Centre, Wribbenhall, Bewdley, Worcestershire, DY12 1BS (tel: Bewdley 402154).

Field shoot

Basingstoke Air Rifle and Pistol Club must be one of the few organisations who can boast of having a range in a walled garden.

Secretary, Derek Peckover, tells me that Sunday, September 9 is the date of their next shoot and all are welcome to attend.

Further details from Derek at 5 Kathleen Close, Basingstoke, Hants. Tel: Basingstoke 54214.

Lightweight carbine

The Scalemead Arms Co of Forest Row, Sussex, have announced a Crosman Hunter kit.

It comprises a Medallist .22 pistol with a Scalemead designed shoulder stock, a Dragon Slayer 4 magnification scope and a specially designed Whisperer silencer and adaptor.

This attractive weapon is compact, easy to operate and lightweight. Being extremely accurate and with a minimum of noise this carbine should be ideal for hunters and also for back garden plinkers anxious to avoid annoying the neighbours.

The gun is available from Crosman stockists and the price is about £90.

Recommended pellets are Hustler Needlepoints.

Airgun World soon hopes to publish a full report on the performance of the Crosman Hunter together with an evaluation of the range of Whisperer silencers which we have recently been testing.

Prometheus prize



Mr Hugh Earl of Prometheus Pellets (right) receives his special prize for export achievements from The Minister for Small Businesses, Mr David Trippier.

Prometheus Pellets have won a special prize for outstanding export achievements by a small business.

Managing Director Hugh Earl received a travel voucher worth £500 donated by British Caledonian Airways at the annual meeting and luncheon of Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce. Presentation was by David Trippier, the Minister for Small Businesses.

John Knibbs, who distributes the firm's products in the UK, said, "Prometheus Pellets are an enormous success in many export markets. Let us hope they will receive the same acclaim in the home market. Sales are increasing very considerably but the launch and promotion in the UK has, ironically, been a very uphill struggle."

Galway winner

The winner of our June 'Galway Competition' who receives a Galway Fieldmaster air rifle, is Mr Patrick Chase of Brentwood, Essex. Two runner-up prizes of Galway silencers go to Kevin Ranson of Ilford, Essex and William McIntosh of Glasgow. No one chose the correct order of B E F G D A, but the three prize winners were the nearest with five out of six features in the correct order.

Change of address

Theoben Engineering, who manufacture the superb Sirocco, have changed their address.

They are now at Anglia Works, Stephenson Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs.



A young competitor zero's his FWB Sport prior to entering the field target shoot at the recent Thames Valley Fair.

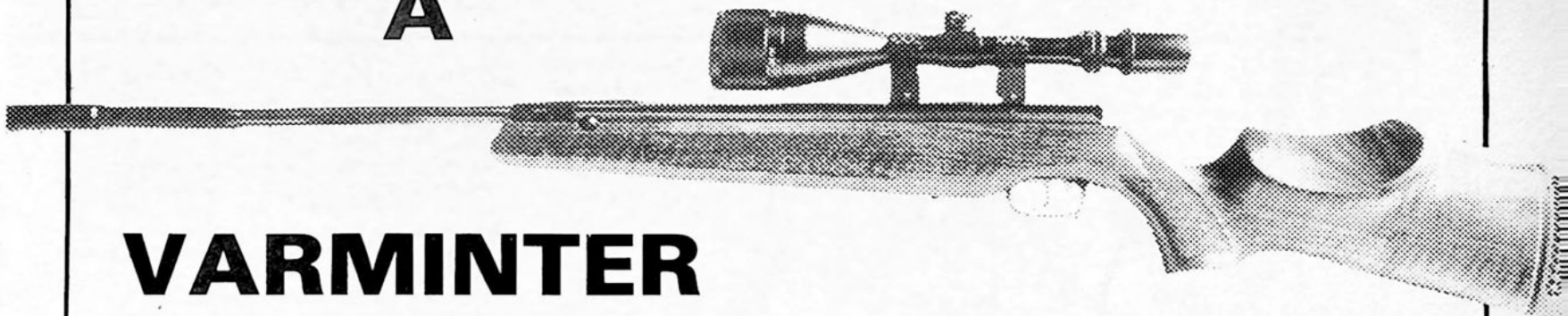
WIN

A

AIRGUN WORLD

Competition

This superb HW80 VARMINTER .22 calibre is this months fantastic prize.



VARMINTER

THE HW80 .22 VARMINTER has a 15" barrel and the complete unit includes an ASI super day and night 3-9x56FM P/A scope and mounts with an Airlogic Whisperer silencer. The stylish French walnut stock is fitted with a ventilated recoil pad and is beautifully hand chequered on the fore-end and pistol grip. The oil finished stock will make the VARMINTER something worth handling.

Specially commissioned by AIRGUN WORLD this months lucky winner will have their initials engraved on the silver oval disc on the stock. It will make their friends green with envy and enhance your rifle collection.

The HW80 VARMINTER and scope is worth £285 and, unique to Gunsport of Rotherham, this variation of the HW80 must be the air rifle of your dreams.'

So, put pen to paper now! The competition closing date is 17th August, 1984.

HOW TO ENTER

All you have to do to win the HW80 VARMINTER is to put six of the eight qualities listed on the entry form in order of importance. In the event of a tie there will be a draw to decide the winner.

Send your completed entry form, together with a cheque or postal order for 35p, 55p or 70p, depending on how many entries you want, to the address on the coupon.

The winners name will be published in our October issue.

ENTRY FORM

Study these eight features of the HW80 VARMINTER place six of them in order of importance.

- A. Designed for hunting and target shooting
- B. Fitted with an Air Logic Whisperer Silencer
- C. Engineered to precision standard
- D. Beautiful French Walnut Stock
- E. Hand chequering on fore-end and pistol grip
- F. Fitted with a ventilated recoil pad
- G. Oil finished stock for good looks and durability
- H. Style, quality and good value

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Entry 1						
Entry 2						
Entry 3						

ONE ENTRY — 35p
TWO ENTRIES — 55p
THREE ENTRIES — 70p

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. No. _____

If you are under 17, an adult must sign on your behalf and give his/her name and address. _____

I enclose a cheque/P.O. for 35p/55p/70p (delete as applicable) made payable to *Airgun World*.
If you don't want to spoil your copy of *Airgun World* by cutting out this form, just write your entry clearly on a separate piece of paper. Send you entry form to: **VARMINTER COMPETITION, Airgun World, 10 Sheet Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BG.** The closing date for entries is August 17th, 1984.

Happiness

says David Lane

A surfeit of guns and accessories can be tempting.

WITH the advent of the Game Fair now only days away, a feeling of expectation and excitement is starting to build up in those dedicated air-gunners who make an annual pilgrimage to the venue every year to take part in the various competitions and soak themselves in the delicious atmosphere of guns and shooting talk! I myself will be going, for Romsey, where the Game Fair is being held is very close to the New Forest where I live and I hope to meet and chat to many readers of *AIRGUN WORLD* on the stand during the three days that the Fair will be in progress.

Competitions aside though, the most interesting side of the Fair to a large section of those who attend is 'Gunmakers Row' and the innumerable trade stands where those of us who are looking for new guns and accessories will be spoilt for choice to say the least.

Human nature is a funny thing when it

Gunmakers Row at the Game Fair can spoil you for choice.



is a good gun

comes to possessions and the old saying that the grass always looks greener on the other side of the fence and that another man's apples always and forever looks tastier than your own, is a truism that manufacturers, not the least manufacturers of guns, are never slow to take advantage of.

You are proceeding quite happily through life, more than content with your shooting outfit when suddenly someone turns up with something which makes you completely lose interest in what you already have. It may be the snazzy effect the new barrel weight lends to the shortened barrel of his gun, or perhaps the magnificent and gigantic sight affixed to the scope rail, or even the gun itself.

Whatever it is . . . you want it and of course this applies to almost any aspect of life you care to name. Clothes, cars, a better job or a bigger house, the list is endless. However, as far as guns are concerned, and I mean guns you intend to shoot in the field, not merely guns you acquire from a collector's point of view, happiness is one good gun! Not two good guns, or half-a-dozen, just the one. So when you are browsing amongst the trade stands at the Game Fair, don't take too much notice of those who may tell you that you are better off with a different gun for every day of the week! You're not! And I will tell you why you are not!

As an *AIRGUN WORLD* writer I have often had several guns and telescopic sights at once, which have been sent to me for field testing, and on such occasions it is nothing for me to stand on one spot for hours on end, blasting away at distant targets on my shooting range in an endeavour to ascertain which gun or scope was the best overall performer.

After such protracted bouts of activity I have often retired from the range with a sense of utter confusion and no clear sense of conclusion about the matter in hand. So far as out and out power is concerned, there is seldom much of significance to choose between guns, because most manufacturers produce hunting air weapons that shoot close to the 12ft lb legal limit, so it is mostly not with power that I am concerned so much as with smoothness of operation and accuracy.

What I do notice most of all, though, is that no two guns ever shoot exactly alike, and that is where the confusion comes in! It is well known that the 'sure shooters' of old always had their 'trusty rifle'. They never had six trusty rifles, or even two, just the one. And so used to their 'piece' did they become, that they boasted the gun was merely an extension of their own arm.

Have you noticed how difficult a strange gun is to shoot, after you have become proficient with your own? That is bad enough, but at least you do get used to your new gun with practice. But if you own and use two or three different hunting weapons all the time, especially if they are say .177, .20 and .22 calibre respectively, oh boy! doesn't life get confusing! You are demanding that your brain remembers details of three different trajectories at varying ranges, as well as the three different trigger let offs and the individual characteristics of each separate gun!

The chances are, if you are constantly doing this, you will never achieve your full potential as a rifle shot and perfect that instinctive quality of marksmanship which only comes with shooting one weapon, when a conspiracy between brain, hand and eye develops slowly but surely and eventually produces the crack shots of this world.

My advice then to field shooters who

have reached physical maturity is to tote just the one gun. Make it a top hole gun, with equally top hole accessories, and however many guns you may collect in the future, go on using that same gun for hunting. That way you will grow with your gun and eventually, as with the fabled shooters of old, it will become a true extension of your own arm.

Even the poorest air gunner today has a top quality shooting outfit within his reach. You only have to thumb through the pages of *AIRGUN WORLD* to see the many dealers who offer extended credit terms to shooters. I only wish I had been as gunwise as a young lad as I am today. Had I been so, I would probably be a top class shot myself, instead of merely 'average', which is what I am and all, I'm convinced, because I have shot too many different guns to shoot one really well!

Every airgunner today has a top quality outfit within his reach.



Terry Lewis suffers

A loss of form

A LOSS of form often comes quite suddenly and unexpectedly. Just when my number of kills to number of shots ratio looks good and my confidence is high, crash, something happens out of the blue, and down goes my ego with a bump. I may fool myself for a day or two, hoping that things will improve, but eventually the penny drops and it's back to basics for a few days, and a few hundred rounds carefully aimed at inanimate targets in the back garden. I'm doing that right now because my last attempt at pigeons proved that I'm in urgent need of a refresher.

The birds had begun using the field about a week before, but as there were only 3 or 4, and I know from past years' experience, that when the clover was ready for harvesting, their numbers would increase dramatically, I bided my time. The following week I took a roundabout route home from work just to check, and there they were. I guessed that between 30 and 40 pigeons were feeding well within air rifle range of the thick cover, an old hawthorn hedge at the top end of the sloping field. They would not stay for long and if I left it until the week-end, they may well have moved on. I had to take my chance.

Dashing off home, my first task was to make a quick phone call, to make sure my plans were O.K. with the farmer. As is often the case, he was busy, but his wife took the message and gave her approval. Out in my shed I grabbed a dozen 'deeks', a bill-hook and the important ball of string and stuffed them into a bag. Up stairs to fetch the Bavaria and my camouflage coat and veil, put everything in the boot and I was away.

It was almost 4 p.m. and I hoped that the birds would be filling their crops for a few hours more before settling down for the night.

Leaving the car about 200 yards from the field, making sure that I didn't block an entrance or anything, I had a good look through my binoculars. Although there weren't the numbers I'd seen earlier, the dozen or so still feeding made it worthwhile to try a stalk.

I followed an old sunken path for about 70 yards, then left everything, except the gun, in a pile, pulled my veil over my face and began a slow, careful crawl. The track soon petered out and my route was strewn with brambles and young nettles. Probably I was their first customer, as the backs of my hands began to tingle and itch. Luckily, the last 20 yards were fairly clear and I

reached my objective, the raised fence under the covering of the hawthorn hedge, only slightly worse for wear.

Several birds had flown over during this time, making me freeze until they were out of sight. Whether they spotted me I couldn't tell, but as I didn't hear any clapping of wings, I felt sure that some at least must have stayed.

Inside the cover of the hedge, I had a rest to get my breath and to cool down a bit. It had taken me about 10 minutes to get this far. My mouth felt dry and I was sweating.



A lone woodie surveys the clover.

"If I'm like this when I'm after pigeons" I said to myself, "what would I be like hunting tigers in India".

Eventually I found a spot that suited my needs. Still inside the hedge, I slowly moved towards the outer covering of new leaves. Here and there, I could see blobs of grey and white moving about and the tension increased rapidly. I brought the Bavaria up to my shoulder and slowly, very slowly, eased the barrel through the foliage.

I could see that I had a choice of three





Pigeons bob continually when feeding making for a difficult shot.

targets. The nearest of these was about 20 yards away, just what I had zeroed the scope at, so I chose it. The ring-dove was feeding rapidly on the sweet, new clover and through the telescopic sight it looked an easy shot, but it would not keep still. It bobbed up and down as it fed, busily pecking at a leaf, moving forward and pecking again and fluttering on. I held on aim for far too long, fearing that it would bob down just as I fired. For some reason I could not bring myself to lower the gun, have a rest and start again.

The shot ploughed into the grass at its feet, and the pigeon, along with all its mates applauded my stupidity as they departed. I felt sick. Suffice to say, from that moment on, my confidence died the death intended for the pigeon. I suppose I could have sat back, lit up and said "Happiness is a cigar called something", but I don't smoke so I just got up and went to fetch the decoys.

I set them up, heads to the wind, leaving a space in front for any newcomer to drop into, and made a few improvements to my hide. One or two branches were tied back, giving me a clearer view, but always making sure that I was looking through the cover and not over it.

An hour passed slowly. Several times I went through the motions of firing at imaginary targets, until I was satisfied that I would not fail the next time. A few birds



It's pigeon time when the clover is ready for harvesting.

A dozen or so were dropping in to feed.

had come into sight and one or two came low to have a closer look at my decoy pattern. At long last, a loner, probably looking for company as well as food, dropped straight in and started feeding. I brought up the rifle, aimed, squeezed and fired. The pigeon took off, flew a few feet and landed again. It looked around as if wondering why the others had not taken fright. I could not believe it.

Reloading quickly, thankful once again for the quiet cocking action of the B.S.F. I prepared to try yet again. By this time, I was feeling very angry with myself, and I took several deep breaths, in an effort to control my mounting frustration. Up came the rifle again, the pigeon turned its back to me as if daring me to fire, so I did.

When it left, for good this time, the bird was minus one long black and grey tail feather and that was all.

As I drove home, I put the blame on anything but myself. It must have been a bad patch of pellets. The scope must have shifted. Maybe a drop of oil, igniting in the chamber? Deep down I knew. By the time I'd put everything away I had admitted to myself the real reasons and decided on the cure. I was snatching my shots and not following through, and there is only one sure way of getting out of a bad patch, and that is practice.



The effective range of

by Colin Hope

IN THIS article I'll be using the word "effective" to define a shot which produces an instant kill on various species of animal and bird. The effectiveness of any particular hunter is not the question — whether or not you can shoot is irrelevant, as is the kind of rifle, ammunition or sight you use. Effective, for the purposes of my argument, means that *if* the pellet strikes the quarry in a "kill area" and it has the required energy as it strikes, the target will certainly die instantly.

Let's assume that the hunter wishes to shoot rabbits at ranges of at least 30 metres. In this case the weapon should impart to the pellet at least 10ft/lb energy at the muzzle, so the nearer you can get to the legal UK non-FAC limit, which is 12ft/lb, so much the better.

In my opinion it's better to have too much power rather than too little. "Overkill"? Well, yes. In fact, the much-maligned airgun is more than capable of despatching even the heaviest of bunnies at 50 yards, providing that the creature receives a direct blow to the head or heart; the problem is that very few airgunners can guarantee to strike these areas at this range. Wounding is much more likely to occur. This is not, of course, because airgun shooters are likely to be lousy shots,

it's simply that the tiny lead slug is very susceptible to variations of wind during its flight and it moves relatively slowly compared, for example, with a high-velocity bullet. The flight trajectory of a lead slug is much more curved, so the airgun hunter has to be a very good judge of distance to make what are sometimes almost instantaneous mental sighting changes.

Many formulae have been devised to show the various energies required to kill various animals. The most famous,

perhaps, is the "Hatcher" formula devised by Colonel Hatcher of the USA. From the different formulae an average figure can be roughly ascertained for certain creatures: approximately 4ft/lb for a rabbit and 3ft/lb for pigeons and crows. Of course these figures don't represent hits in non-vital areas, but they are supposed to relate to amount of "shock" required to kill if the creature is struck in the head or chest region causing rupture of vital organs or disabling of the nervous system beyond recovery.

I'm not happy unless I have a good margin to play with, so I like to ensure that



*Lying prone
with a BSF underlever
this shooter netted 35 pigeon.*

Air Weapons



A grey squirrel needs 4ft/lb at 35 yards to ensure a clean kill . . .



. . . while a rabbit needs 5ft/lb.

my pellet has at least 5ft/lb of energy on reaching the target. I've found from experience that this minimum energy level, whatever the calibre, will kill every time without fail.

Let's look at the obvious things that happen to a pellet as it leaves the muzzle. First, gravity pulls it towards the ground; second, the atmosphere begins to slow it down. Gravity makes no allowance for weight, so every projectile is pulled down at the same speed. This means that the distance travelled by the pellet is directly related to its speed: the faster it leaves the muzzle, the further it will go (disregarding aerodynamic principles for the moment), and obviously the more powerful the gun the greater will be the speed of the pellet. If you have two guns with their barrels horizontal to the horizon and you fire them at the same instant, both pellets will strike the ground at the same time even if one gun has only half the power of the other. The difference is that the pellet from the more powerful gun will have travelled much further.

Let's suppose we have a .22 rifle that gives the pellet a muzzle velocity of 500fps; our pellet weighs 14 grains. Muzzle energy will be 7.76 ft/lb. We have another, super gun that can fire the same pellet at double that velocity: 1,000fps. The velocity has doubled, but the energy has now *quadrupled* to 31ft/lb making the pellet four times harder to stop and, better still, the trajectory of the pellet will be almost flat up to about 40 yards. Such an airgun as this latter model would need to have a spring considerably bigger than currently available models.

As I've already said, an airgun with power exceeding 10ft/lb is more than adequate to kill at ranges further than we can accurately use it. For example, a .22 pellet of 14 grains with a velocity of 600fps at the muzzle will have an energy of a little more than 11ft/lb; if it is an average-type dome head it will still be moving at around 440fps at 50 yards and still have an energy of 6ft/lb. That's more than enough to kill a big rabbit, but how many of us can pick out a rabbit's head at this range in imperfect field conditions and then guarantee to hit it?

I once watched an airgunner shooting pigeon among decoys on a field of young pea-shoots. He was lying prone, using a

powerful .177 BSF underlever. He's painstakingly prepared a super hide and it paid off. The day's shoot netted about 35 pigeon and, occasionally, he shot some that I would have considered well out of range. I left a couple of marker pegs where I picked up the furthest kills and returned later with a tape to measure the distance. The furthest kill was almost 70 yards and every bird he shot that day was killed. He was obviously a good shot, but he proves the point that the gun is capable. The ability of the shooter governs the range.

My own shooting is limited to ranges of about 100ft. I think this is as far as I can safely shoot in the knowledge that I will kill my quarry cleanly. And we all owe our wildlife the right to that at least.

At the legal maximum of 12ft/lb, the .22 still has 4ft/lb left at 70 yards and the .177 3ft/lb using an average pellet. Wadcutters will have substantially less and pointed pellets slightly more. Shooting at 35 yards will, therefore, ensure guaranteed kills.

Finally, here is a guide to the energies required for clean kills based on my own experience: hare 6ft/lb; rabbit 5ft/lb; carrion crow 3ft/lb; pigeon 3ft/lb; rat 3ft/lb; squirrel (grey) 4ft/lb; duck 4ft/lb; collared dove 2ft/lb; starling 1-2ft/lb; mink 3lb; coypu 6ft/lb.

PACK-UP YOUR

LAST month I gave you some tips on how to discover and approach farmers in the area you chose for your shooting holiday. As the time to leave approaches, you will need to decide times of travelling, especially if you have rail connections to organise.

Jonathan Wilkes



should have a look at your rifle to check for loose nuts or screws etc. If your rifle's spring needs renewing then this is the time to look at it and not the night before you go! Also, make sure that your rifle is powerful enough to kill your quarry humanely.

A word of warning though people who are normally quite happy to grab their rifle and a tin of pellets to go for an afternoon's shooting get all fussy about which rifle/scope/pellet combination to use when going for a few days. They frantically swap and change, searching for perfection, with the result that all sorts of new problems show themselves with only a few days to the start of the holiday. Don't do it!!

A few years ago, just before departing for a long weekend shooting in Wales, I was stupid enough to think that my 4 x 40

If this is the first shooting holiday that you have organised, or even if it is your first time at camping, then you are probably wondering what on earth to take and what to leave behind. Well, the important thing to remember is not to overload yourself with excess kit. Before you include anything in your rucksack, ask yourself if it is really necessary, or are you including it "just in case"!

How much you take will, of course, depend on how you are travelling to your area. If you intend on going by car then you are only restricted by the size of your boot. By train and/or bike however, and you will have to carry everything in a rucksack. A good rule of thumb is to gather together everything that you consider essential and only take half of it. That should be about right!

As a general guide, this is what I would consider to be sufficient:

Essential:

Tent, rifle, gunbag, 'scope (if you use one), pellets, sleeping bag, mallet, penknife with can-opener and screwdriver, silicon gun oil, oily rags, cooking pot, cutlery, plates, cup, wellingtons, trainers or other lightweight shoes, old clothes, light waterproofs, knife for cleaning game, small ball of string, money.

Desirable: (Space permitting)

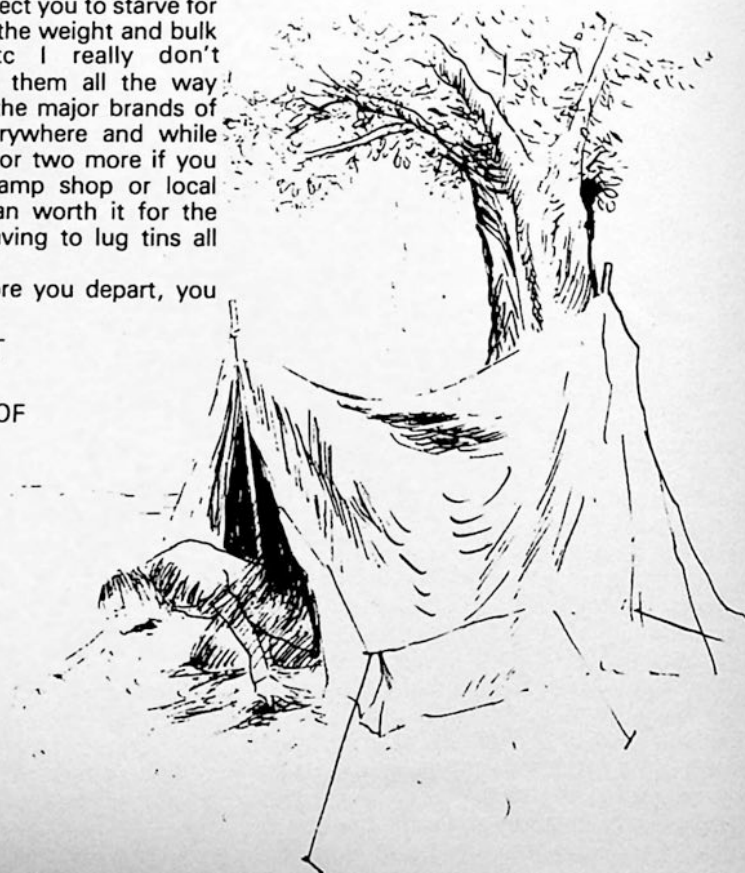
Heavy waterproofs, stove, food, camouflage kit, camouflage netting, pigeon decoys, tool kit for rifle.

You will notice from the above lists that I

have placed food in the "Desirable" section. No, I don't expect you to starve for the week!! Because of the weight and bulk of tins, packets etc I really don't recommend you carry them all the way from home. After all, the major brands of products are sold everywhere and while you may pay a penny or two more if you buy them from the camp shop or local grocers, it is more than worth it for the convenience of not having to lug tins all over the countryside!

A week or two before you depart, you

CHECK THAT
YOUR TENT
IS WATERPROOF



GEAR

W/A was inadequate for the situations I would be shooting under and so changed to an ultra-powerful 3-12 x 40 W/A zoom. The result? The blasted thing was so heavy that it crept along to scope rails of my HW35 until it finally dropped off altogether! The accuracy was appalling as well, of course! Naturally, I had forgotten to bring the tools necessary to replace the 'scope and so had to cut short my holiday in frustration and despair!

Take my advice — stick to your present combination and if you really have to experiment in the field then make sure that you take all the necessary tools for adjustment. It is your responsibility as a sportsman to have your kit as accurate as possible before you use it against live quarry, however.

I also mentioned silicon gun oil and oily rags in the "essential" section. You may well not be able to clean your gun properly for the whole of the holiday, and wiping it over with a rag soaked in silicon oil is a useful dodge to prevent it going rusty meanwhile.

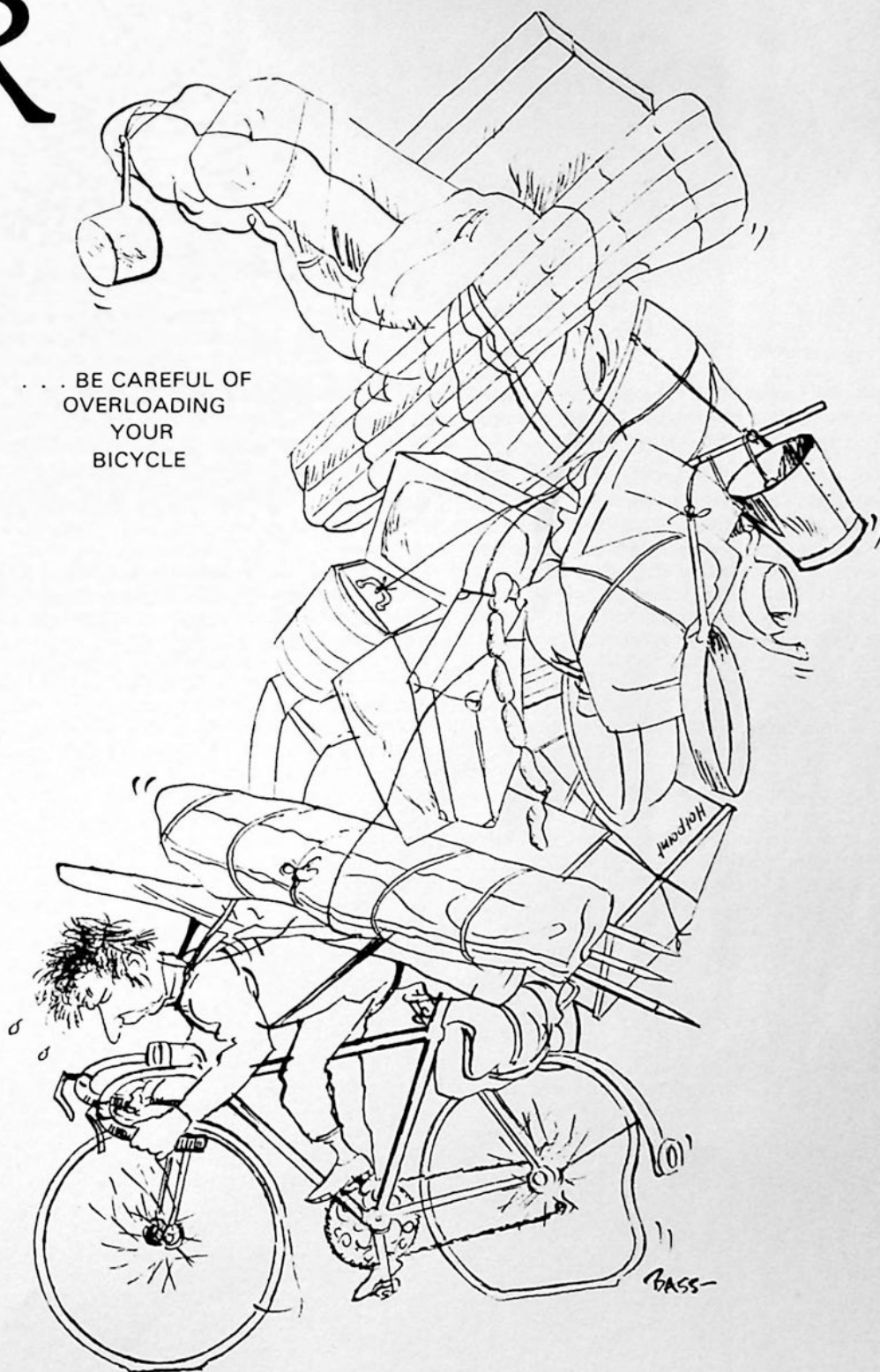
If your tent has already seen a fair bit of use or if it has been stored under damp conditions then you should check that the waterproofing is still effective. If it is in need of attention then you can buy commercial compounds with which to re-proof it. Again, do not leave this until the last minute as you can bet that if you do, it will rain non-stop through your holiday and you will get soaked! Choose a warm, dry day and practice erecting and dismantling your tent until you feel confident about being able to do it properly.

While on the subject of your tent, do not forget to take a mallet to hammer in the pegs with. I overlooked this on my first camping expedition and spent half of the evening trying unsuccessfully to use a brick in the place of a mallet, and the other half trying to straighten them out again!

It is a good idea (if you can manage it) to have a few days concentrated practice at the sort of ranges that you are likely to be shooting, say 25-40 yards. If you pace out 40 yards, you may be surprised at just how far it really is. This will be especially true if you are used to shooting at the sort of ranges available in most gardens. Practice will not only improve your accuracy and consistency, but also your ability to judge the range of your targets accurately over varied forms of terrain. This sort of exercise would give you the ideal opportunity to iron out any small bugs in your equipment (scope-creep, loose stock screw, weight of trigger pull etc) that could cause a loss of accuracy.

Do not restrict yourself to any one position when practising. It may well be that you shoot most accurately from the prone position, but this may be an impossible or impractical position to adopt when the chance of a shot presents itself.

... BE CAREFUL OF
OVERLOADING
YOUR
BICYCLE

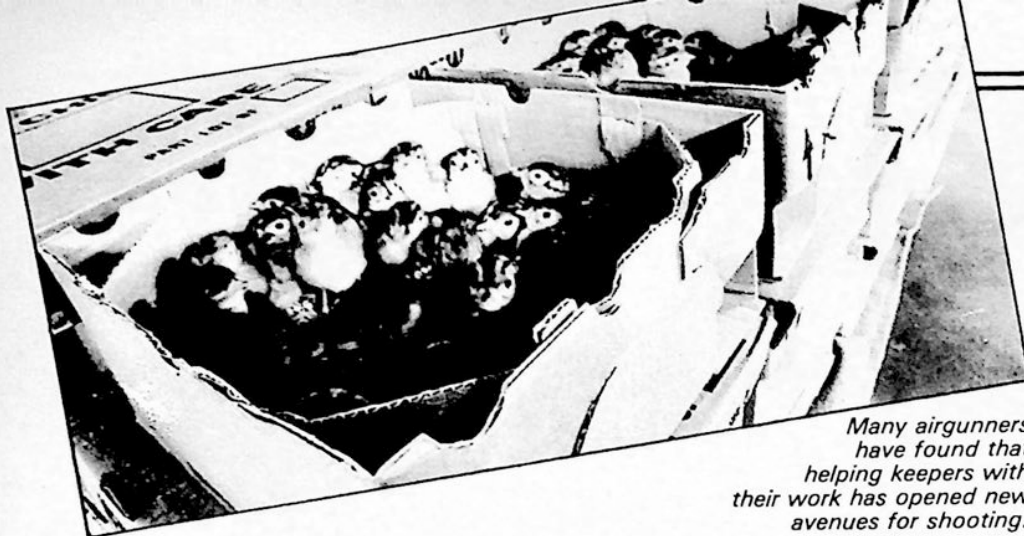


Similarly, if it is possible and safe to do so, practice shots requiring you to aim uphill and downhill as the holdover in these types of shots will be different from a horizontal shot of the same range.

A few final words on taking a bicycle with you. Country roads often have sharp stones on them that could easily puncture your tyre. To guard against this, carry a puncture repair outfit and tyre levers. They cost only a pound or two and take up hardly any room. Also, be careful of overloading

your bicycle or carrying your load in an unsafe fashion. Panniers are ideal for carrying the heavier items whereas a rucksack can hold your clothes. The danger you must avoid is that your load could catch in the wheels or interfere with the steering.

Next month I shall pass on a few tips on living in your tent and a few delicious recipes to prepare over the campfire, including some using your freshly killed game.



Many airgunners have found that helping keepers with their work has opened new avenues for shooting.

THE soft wet rain of a summer morning like this finds its way everywhere. Plants thrive on it — and so do midges! In the absence of sun or wind to drive them under cover, they buzz the face, bite the small area around the eyes that hasn't been treated with repellent, and creep up the cuffs. Though the young pheasants enjoy the midges, the wet does them little good; like me they would rather keep dry.

One way and another, the partridge and pheasant have had a thin time in recent years. Having to rear wet young is not a new difficulty, but their other problems have increased a thousand times with modern change. In this century most of the broadleaved woodlands in Britain have been felled and with them have gone great areas of cover, nesting grounds, and feed in both the forms of seed from wild grass to acorns, and the insects and bugs that thrive in a woodland. And even 30 years ago there were few places where a bird could be further than a couple of hundred yards from the nearest natural and year-round cover such as a hedge or ditch. Today with many more fields run together into large monocrop areas, a bird can easily be half a mile from the nearest cover, though happily the spread of tractor-driven hedge-trimming machines has in places resulted in better hedge maintenance and thicker bottoms to them.

Better hedges, however, cannot compensate for the great monocrop fields which lie for many winter months as open plough as desolate as an Arctic plain or the Sahara sands. And no sooner has the summer crop reached maturity than it is harvested. Along with the crop, much wildlife inevitably dies. Escape for some is impossible: so large are the areas that a mouse starting from the centre would die of starvation or old age before it reached the sanctuary of a hedge. However, the problems don't end there.

Crop sprays including herbicides and insecticides are applied during growth. The former not only kill weeds in the crops, but certain wild plants in the hedges. Amongst these are several that directly provide birds with their seed, and others that are the only plants on which certain insects and other grubs feed. If the plants had survived, so would the insects which in the food chain would have been tasty beakfuls for many a bird. The insecticides kill insects both on the crops and wherever they drift on hedges, ditches, verges and woodland.

Policies of recent governments have made it difficult for countrymen to think more than a year ahead. The attractions of planting broadleaved trees for one's grandchildren have largely gone. Where land is so poor that it seems only trees will show a profit, the earlier return from black forests of Christmas trees is more attractive than the better quality timber and wildlife-packed woodland and broadleaf plantations which will show no profit in one's lifetime. The few large farms that regularly show a profit do so because of their large monocrop area policy. The many who farm medium-sized areas struggle. Against this background, it is not surprising that every inch of wild ground or other natural habitat of wild birds, animals and plants of the countryside, whenever possible goes under the plough.

Perhaps because shooting shows some return from otherwise unprofitable areas, or



Rabbits should be hit hard.

possibly because it creates a greater awareness of the needs of game, including habitat, feed supply and predator control, it has become the major active factor in improving conditions for wildlife all over Britain. Corners of doubtful agricultural value — shelter belts, bogs and similar area — have been left alone or improved for the sake of game. Vermin has been controlled, and when natural food supplies are low, the game is fed. This has not just benefitted game but has also resulted in a range of habitat perfect for most wildlife. Airgunners reap the rewards of good management as it resulted in improved rabbit stalking and pigeon decoying, sports that harvest the surplus of a natural and self-generating crop. And airgunning has contributed to the better habitat as quiet and skilful use of air rifles control pests that would otherwise have monopolised improved habitat, or at the least limited the spread of more interesting species.

There is not a corner of Britain that has not been changed by man. Long ago he destroyed all the larger predators, like the wolf, and many of the natural food chains. For the future he must maintain an acceptable balance. He is you and I. We need to look after wild spots — the woods, bogs, hedges and ditches — and create more. If as sportsmen we can control potential pests humanely, their lot as sporting quarry will be much happier, than would be the case should they become downgraded to vermin, to be exterminated as economically as possible.

Sadly there are too many humans for us all to be hunter-gatherers, but I always enjoy a rabbit pie with the knowledge that

Much wildlife inevitably dies when crops are harvested.



airgunner and wildlife

by Freddie Dalgety

his keeper comes over from the other side of the estate to lend a hand. The farmer is also a member of the shoot as is one of our local wildfowlers. All give help in various forms — the corner of a field, a diverted fence, some young tree plants, feeding stuff and much else. I do most of the day-to-day work connected with the shoot and conservation, carry out a pest control programme and amongst much else enjoy great sport with an airgun. This morning, out in the wet and the midges, I fed some young pheasants I rear to top up the wild stock, shot a crow with a borrowed

Theoben, planted some beech trees I had potted on for good root growth, pruned some bushes to provide thicker cover nearer the ground and noted a corner where rabbit damage is showing signs of getting out of hand. That is what shooting is all about, the marriage between man and land, but I must be off now, I planned a little stalk for this evening. If the Sirocco and I could bag a brace of the larger young rabbits, damage would fall back to acceptable proportions and I will still be able to enjoy a few more stalks in the autumn.

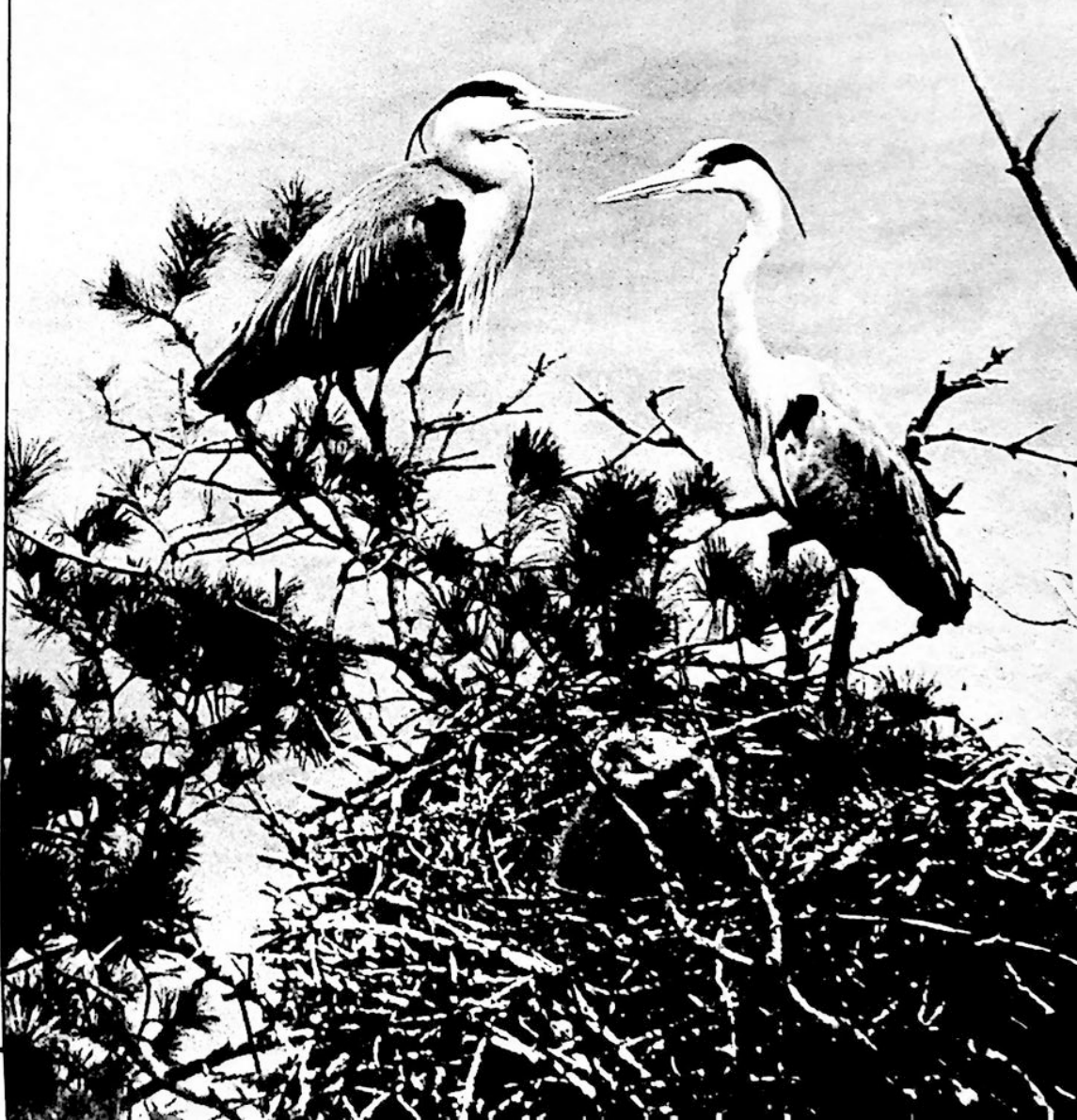
The author's shoot is fortunate in having a Heronry overlooking the sea.

the rabbit lived free and killed by my air-rifle pellet was unaware of its end, or the imminence of that end.

So the sport of shooting, including knowledgeable airgunning, produces food with minimal pressure and cruelty. Land management for shooting provides the habitat and circumstances on which all wildlife, including plants, animals and birds thrive. It helps assure a future for the rarer species and indeed is hard to fault where the sportsman makes a study and an art of his leisure.

Every shot should know his patch and have an idea of its ideal population. On a big shoot there will be room for a pair of crows, jackdaws, magpies or jays. Perhaps a small shoot shouldn't accommodate them. Weasels and stoats are all normally fair game: one will only see a fraction of their total number. A light spread of pigeons and rabbits should always be welcome. They are tomorrow's sport and dinner. Only when their numbers show signs of becoming out of hand should they be seriously persecuted, just as breeding birds and animals should be left in peace unless there is good reason to the contrary. The sportsman's aim is to maintain or improve the balance of life on his patch when judged through tomorrow's eyes. The landowner, farmer, game shot, keeper and airgunner should all work together to this objective, and where one person holds all the titles he should use all the skills, or perhaps offer some of the opportunities to others.

I neither own nor farm the land around my house. The landowner is keen on shooting and I rear a few pheasants and duck for his shoot. When things are busy,



SCRAP YARD RABBITS

by Simon Terry

SIMILAR to a growing number of motorists these days, with the cost of running a car so high, I obtain some of my spare parts, second-hand. It was on such a visit to my local scrap merchant some weeks ago, that I made a very important discovery. Splashing through the inevitable mud, looking for a wreck similar to mine I spotted in-between the piles of cars, rabbit tracks.

There was no mistaking the two large rear feet, four or five inches apart, with the two small fore feet, or sometimes only one, in front and between, forming a triangle and pointing in the direction of travel. I looked harder, and found that there were several sets of tracks and some were made quite recently.

This particular yard covers an area of about eight acres. There is a major motorway along one side and a wide tidal river on the other. Somehow, living off very scant pickings of grass and rush and a large clump of gorse, a number of rabbits seemed to be thriving.

I forgot my original quest for the moment, and went looking for the owner. I found him, sitting on the steps of his caravan drinking tea, made from a kettle on top of a blazing home-made brazier, just like the old fashioned night watchmen used to do. He knew my face from earlier visits after spares, and was quite friendly. We chatted for a while, and then I popped the question. Not quite going on bended knee, I asked for permission to shoot on his ground.

'Sure', he said enthusiastically. 'I love a bit of rabbit myself'. 'Thanks very much indeed', I replied, 'the first one will be yours'. I then went on to explain that as a member of BASC I was insured against third party claims and he was impressed. 'Come any time you like', he said.

It's times like this that make all the refusals and disappointments we have to endure, when looking for shooting, seem worth while. My day was made.

As I turned off the motorway on the shooting day I could see no signs of life in the scrap-yard. It was just as I'd hoped, closed on Saturday afternoons. Although the main gates were locked, the high fence alongside was broken in several places, and I could simply walk in. I had my camo-jacket but wondered if it would be necessary, there was very little natural cover amongst the old cars and they were very colour under the sun.

I'd zeroed the Nicko Silver Crown on my Bavaria at 15-yards and slowly moving amongst the wrecks, stalking my as yet unseen quarry, I thought that even that range was too far. The spaces between the cars were never more than a few feet wide.

I decided to try the riverbank and here things looked better. Recent high tides had left a thin layer of silt over the lower ground



Magpies are noisy birds which can help or hinder your shooting.

and tracks were visible everywhere. I couldn't be sure though if there were lots of rabbits, or just one or two, because of the confined space and having to cover the same area many times.

Walking carefully on the slippery bank, I came to the large clump of gorse. It was on the highest piece of ground, and here I found the warren. The main entrance opened on to a grassy bank about 10 feet from the rushes, and there were several bolt-holes amongst the thick roots. I looked around for some cover for myself, but there was none. Then I noticed a very old black 'Al Capone' type car about 15 yards away. It was minus a windscreen and front doors, but still had its rear seat. A perfect hide.

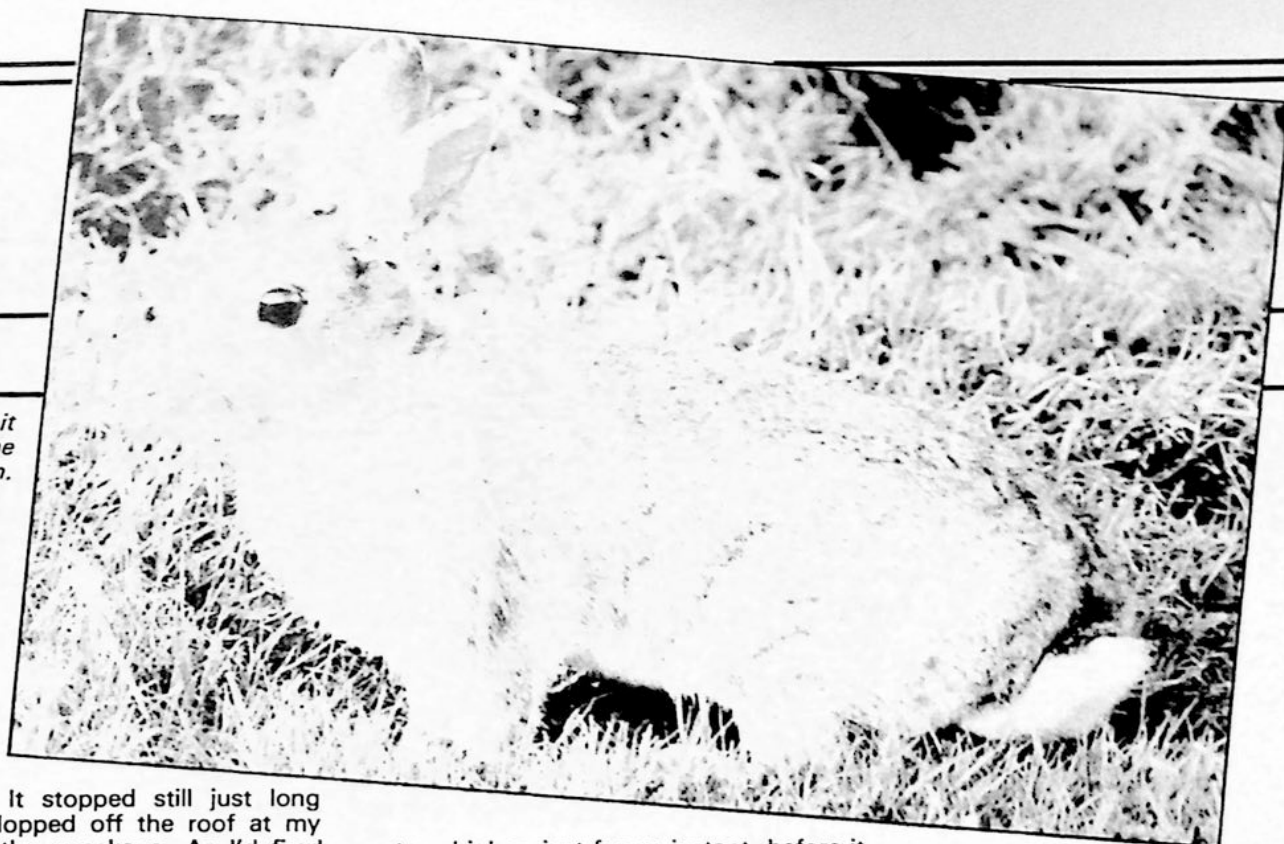
I was soon in a state of 'relaxed awareness' when some 20 minutes later, a

movement at the entrance hole caught my eye. A tiny rabbit emerged and sat totally unconcerned in the late afternoon sun. Soon it was joined by two more, and I was enthralled as they played about on the bank. They were no bigger than my clenched fist, and I had no thought of shooting as I watched them through the scope.

The screeching alarm-call of a magpie caused the youngsters to freeze momentarily, and then to disappear in a flash. At first I thought that the bird had spotted me, but I was wrong. Something else, quite close at hand, was driving the magpie mad with rage. Soon it was joined by others until there were five in all, squawking loudly, and flitting from car to car.

The first one to die was not even missed

*A young rabbit
basked in the
afternoon sun.*



by its mates. It stopped still just long enough, and flopped off the roof at my shot and into the wreckage. As I'd fired from well inside the car body, my shot must have been muffled, and the rest of the corvid family kept up their incessant squawks and screechings.

I reloaded in ultra-slow motion, and had to wait patiently as they flew about before another shot presented itself. At last one of the noisiest birds alighted on top of the gorse bush, right in my chosen killing ground. It was calling loudly as the pellet caught it in the chest. The screech rose an

A marauding fox was the cause of the magpies concern.

octave higher, just for an instant, before it fell and came to rest in the mouth of the burrow.

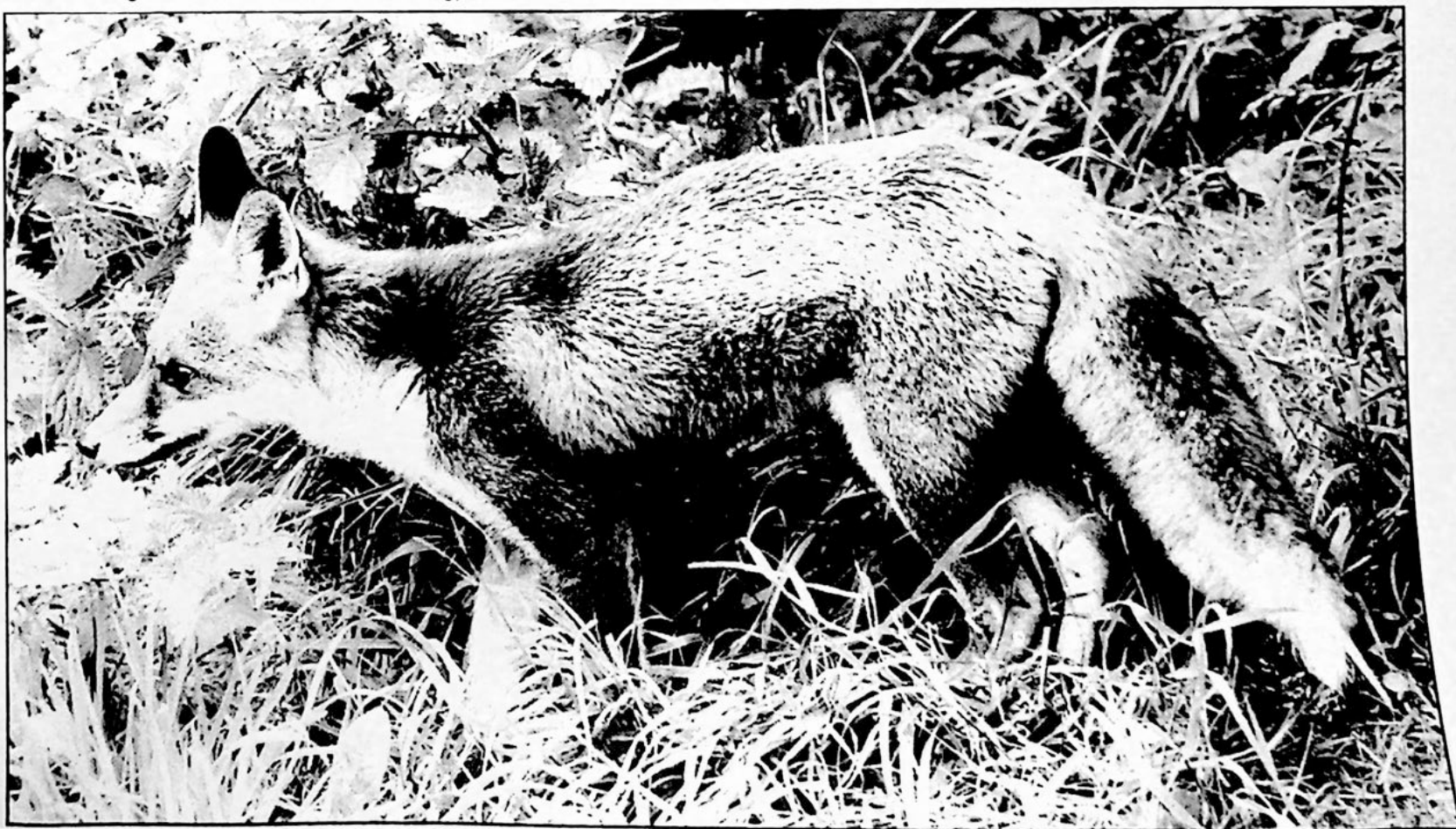
I looked around for more targets, but they had gone. Still, I thought, two out of five is good going.

I cleared the rabbit hole, and made my way back along the same route, towards the entrance of the yard. Not far along the bank, I discovered just what had worried the magpies. Intermingled with my footprints in the mud, made only an hour or so

earlier, were the fresh prints of a fox. They vanished into the wreckage of several cars piled on top of one another.

'A man-made earth', I thought to myself. 'Something tells me that we may meet before long Mr. Fox. In fact we could be seeing quite a lot of each other'.

The trip had not gone quite to plan, but with two successful shots, and a very rosy looking future, I was more than content with my newly acquired shooting ground.





Country Gun

by Arthur Shepherd

OVER the last couple of years one of the most productive hunting grounds on my 'patch' has been in and around a derelict garden. Once upon a time its Cotswold stone walls enclosed immaculate lawns, paths, and flower borders; Carefully trimmed box hedges defined various sections of the garden and rambler roses cascaded from tall pergolas. Now grasses reach almost shoulder high where people once played croquet and the shrub borders have become an impenetrable jungle of nettles, cleavers, briars, elderberry, alder saplings and, here and there, young sycamore and oak seedlings. So rank and dense has it become that even the rabbits prefer to graze outside its confines, the clover-rich sheep pasture offering much more tempting fare than the overgrown borders.

Occasionally it is still possible to bag a rabbit inside the walls but usually it is more productive to use the garden as cover and shoot those grazing on the outside. As regular readers will know I've even perched myself up a tree overlooking the walls and shot rabbits from my 'high-seat' in considerable numbers.

But what interests me particularly about the garden has been the steady progression — or regression, depending on ones point of view, from order to confusion. Year by year the balance of the flora has changed and with it the fauna. First the annual weeds and coarse grasses invaded the borders and an eruption of mole hills across the lawns provided ideal seed beds for similar weeds and grass species; then brambles and roses fought for light and space and elderberry and the once cultivated cotoneasters began to swamp the lower growing plants.

Now a hedgehog has a nest under a corner of the remains of the box hedge; and blackbirds, thrushes, robins, wrens and bluetits all have nests among the dense cover. A little owl has reared a brood for at least two years somewhere among the ledges, ridges and chimney pots of the old house and jackdaws infest holes in the roof space.

To me it serves as an excellent reminder of what happens to an ecosystem when man's artificial controls are removed. It also illustrates on a small scale what would happen to our countryside if all agricultural activities were to stop. Soon the land would revert to scrub; slowly but surely the hedgerows would disappear as the stronger growing trees swamped out the weaker; alder, thorn and birch would colonise the fields and, given time, these in turn would be replaced by other deciduous hardwoods until eventually the whole country would be covered by oak and beech forests, or, in the uplands, conifers.

Animal and bird populations would also change dramatically for most of today's common species love the 'wood edge'



Shooting rabbits from a tree hide.

habitat provided by the modern patchwork of small woods and hedgerows. Habitat for open ground birds would also be restricted and it's probable that such species as skylarks, linnets, yellow hammers etc would become rarities.

But how beautiful the early stages would be. From early spring to late summer a profusion of wild flowers would cover the fields and an example of this has been provided by a 2½ acre field close to my home which has been sold for building plots. Farming of the ground finished last autumn, building has not yet begun, and the field is an eye dazzling mixture of bright yellow self-set oilseed rape, blood red poppies, white campion and both red and white clover, all intermixed with tufts of graceful cocksfoot, soft brome and crested

dogstail grasses. And very beautiful it looks too.

Unfortunately I shall not be able to continue my observations of the derelict garden much longer for at long last the big house has been sold and already the builders have moved in to begin renovations.

One result of the building work has been the virtual disappearance of the rabbits from around the garden so one evening recently, having drawn a blank at the usual site I decided to stalk a rabbit or two in a small closely grazed paddock behind the farm buildings and close to a wood.

Because of other work pressures my outings with the air rifle have been restricted of late and the lay-off certainly showed up in my lack of accuracy. Conditions were absolutely right for shooting; plenty of rabbits on the short grass, adequate cover for stalking in the form of clumps of nettles and thistles left by the sheep, and a strong breeze to carry away scent and small sounds.

Throughout the evening my stalking was excellent. Most stalks began with a slow careful upright walk screened from the feeding rabbit by a clump of tall thistles or nettles. This was followed by a section of ground covered at a low crouch with frequent pauses and almost unbearable aching of the muscles of the thighs and calves, and finally a short crawl to the shooting point. I even stalked a woodpigeon sitting on the top rail of a gate to within 20 yards and at no time was I further than 25 yards from the intended quarry when I took my shot. And yet out of more than half a dozen shots I bagged only one rabbit.

Later I tried shooting at a small piece of wood floating on a pond and the reason for my poor marksmanship soon became apparent. The splashes of pellets all around the target showed how erratic was my trigger let-off and I realized that I was treating the air rifle more like a shotgun with a definite 'pull' on the trigger rather than a 'squeeze'. So it's back to the practice range for me and until I can once again blow away an empty 20 bore cartridge case at 25 yards nine times out of ten I shall keep away from live quarry.

Another thing I'd forgotten but which I soon rediscovered during my stalking is how easily thistle spikes and nettle stings penetrate thin summer clothing — especially trousers — and especially when sudden movements which might spook the quarry are out. Crouching immobile on top of a strong growing Scotch thistle can be an agonising experience and attempts to



The derelict, walled garden provided good sport.

remove thistle spikes from ones posterior with the aid of eyebrow tweezers and a mirror is not only difficult and undignified but can also be embarrassing when caught at it by ones wife (and that's one picture I'm not going to provide).

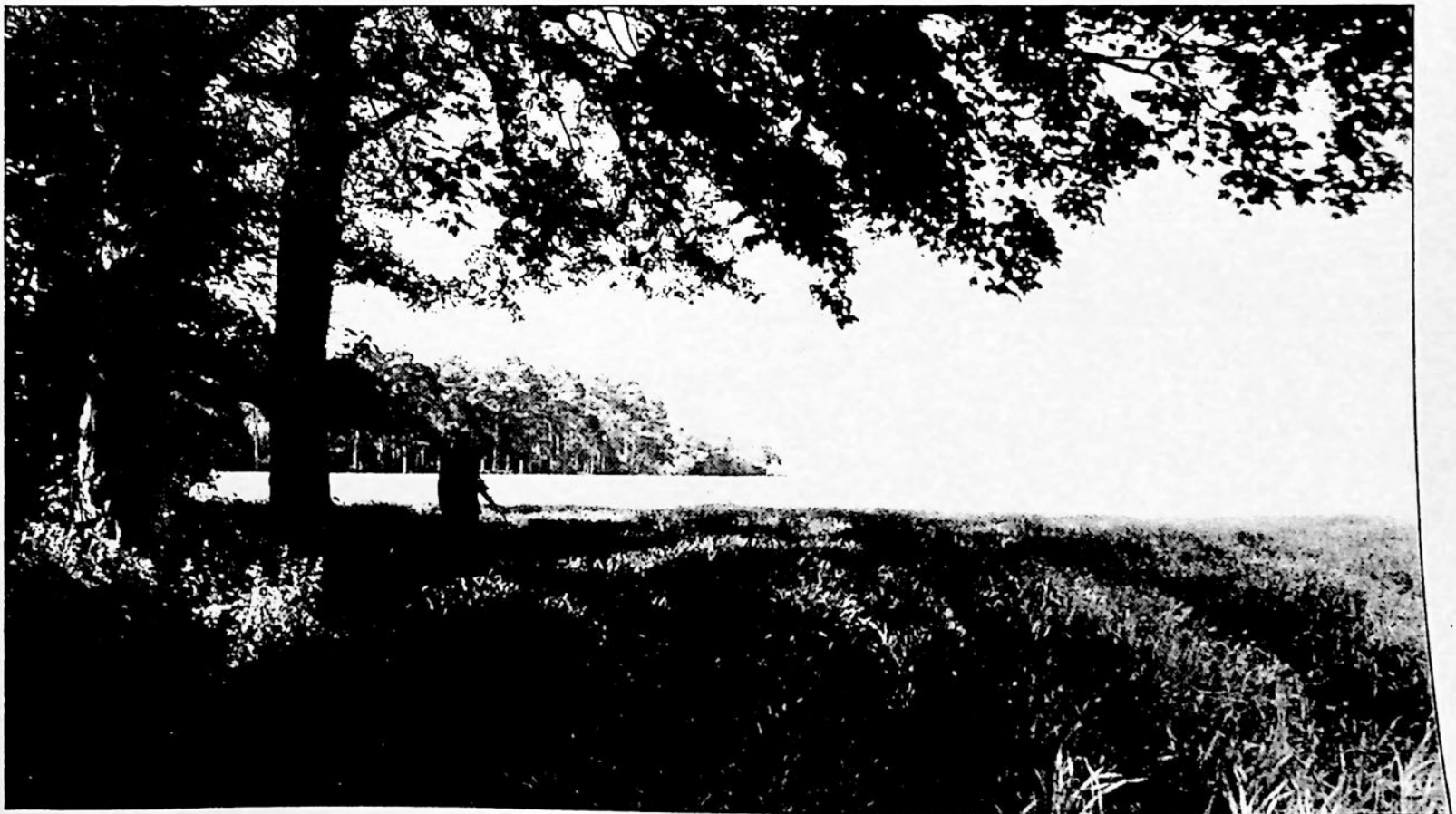
My one victim of the evenings outing, a three parts grown buck rabbit, I gutted on site and then hung in the garage for a day before skinning and jointing. The joints I dipped in well seasoned flour and deep fried

in the chip pan. The result was an extremely tasty meal. I don't know whether rabbits stalked and shot by oneself taste better because they're fresh and grew under natural conditions or whether they only seem to taste better as a result of their being the rewards of ones own efforts.

I wonder if my wife smuggled a bought rabbit into the freezer and I ate it in the belief it was one of my own shooting would I still think it tasted better? Not that it

matters too much for in the matter of taste as long as one is convinced a thing tastes better then it does.

Which brings me in a round-about way to a letter in the June issue of *Airgun World* from D.H. McCready of Northampton who criticises me for excusing landowners charging £10.00 per day for vermin shooting on the grounds of there not being enough shooting to go round. Firstly, I



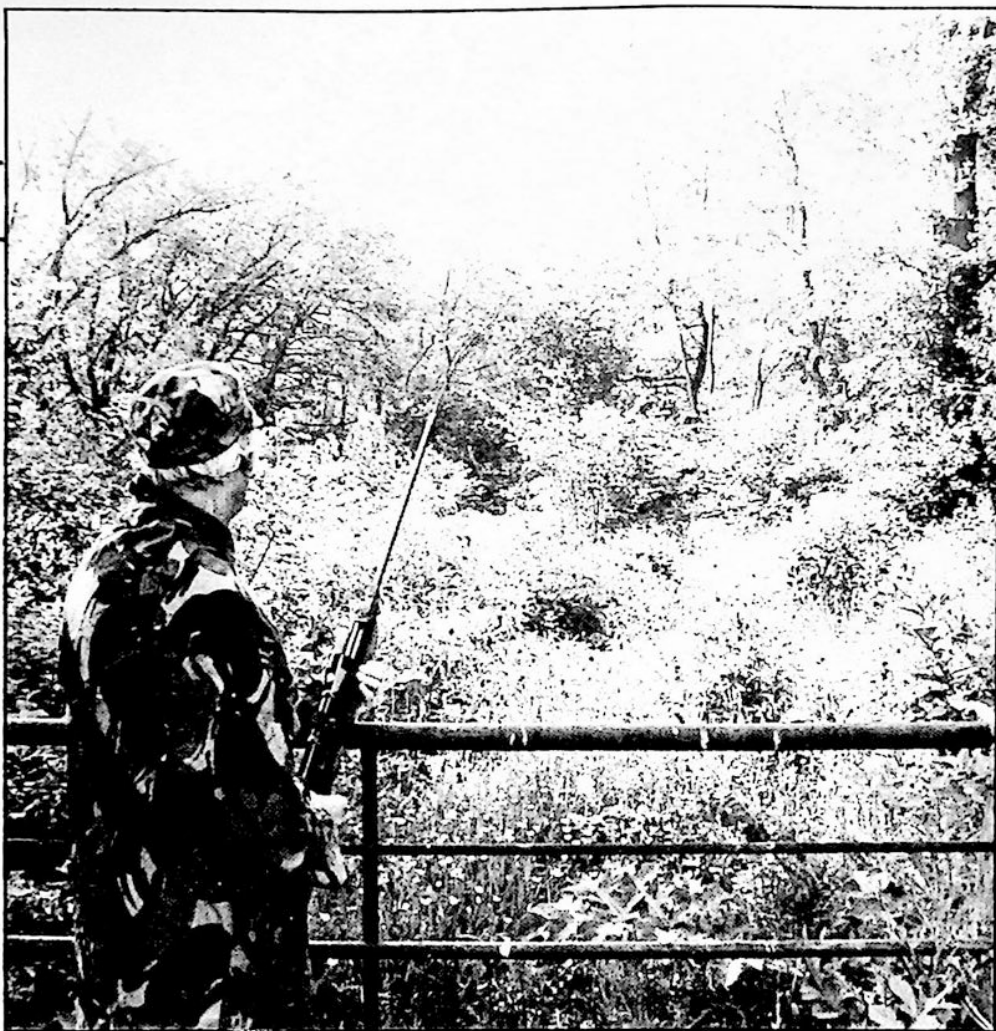
Keeping in the shade Arthur watches for pigeon.

Country Gun

don't condone the practice but in a situation where demand outstrips supply it is only to be expected, and to come back to the taste of the rabbit, even if there is enough land to meet the demand, as Mr McCready maintains, as long as shooters and farmers believe the opposite then these prices are likely to be asked for the shooting.

What I do find interesting is his point that shooters do not necessarily want to shoot vermin but just somewhere to let off their rifles at inanimate targets. If shooters approach farmers with a request for space for target shooting, restricted to one place where the farmer or his staff could keep an eye on proceedings and even be asked to try his hand, I've a feeling they might obtain a more sympathetic reception.

When the shooter or shooters are either youngsters or teenagers I would suggest the initial approach be made on their behalf by an adult who would accept responsibility for their good behaviour. After all, although we tend to generalise about the situation, when it comes to the point the farmer/shooter relationship is a personal one and there are often two gaps to be bridged before confidence is established — the town/country gap and the generation gap. An approach by an older person eliminates one of these allowing a better chance of mutual understanding when tackling the other.



A woodland edge provides an ideal habitat for bird life.



A low box hedge provides good cover in the derelict garden.

GAME FAIR PREVIEW

AIRGUN ENTHUSIASTS will have the chance to try out Olympic-standard recoil-less match weapons at the CLA Game Fair at Broadlands, Romsey, Hampshire from July 26-28. The side-loading Feinwerkbau rifles have peep sights and cost about £300 each to buy. Visitors will be able to try them out on a 10-metre (Olympic and International) range for just 20p for five shots including expert instruction.

Conventional .177 rifles will be used in the main competitive event, a 5-shot target contest over a 6-yard range. There will be no limit to the number of times a shooter may enter. Daily prizes will be awarded, with a cup for the overall Game Fair champion over the three days — a trophy which often requires a shoot-off on the last day to determine the winner. Entry will cost 25p a go.

There will also be a simulated pest shoot, offering the opportunity to 'have a go' at a variety of targets over ranges between six yards and 10 metres, at an entry fee of 20p.

A special feature of the Game Fair will be the 'BB' range, where nine to 14 year olds can try their skills with these lightweight junior rifles, identical to their big brothers in everything but size.

There will be a strong emphasis on training and safety, and the 'BB' range will be under the supervision of Mrs. Joan Evans, chairman of the British Association for BB Shooting, Britain's newest shooting organisation.

Mrs. Evans, a maths and science teacher at Blakeley Heath Middle School near Wolverhampton, specialises in training nine to 14 year olds in airgun safety and marksmanship. The Game Fair Target Air Rifle Shooting is a family affair, as her husband Les, a former engineer who now teaches Technical Studies at Wednesfield High School, has organised the section under the auspices of the National Smallbore Rifle Association. They will be assisted by more than 20 voluntary stewards.

Throughout the 3 days of the event experienced range officers will be on hand to help in a variety of ways and try to answer any questions about air rifle shooting as a sport.

But be prepared to spend a little time waiting because some 7,500 enthusiasts are expected through the range over the three days.



Gunmakers Row is always a popular venue at the Game Fair.



Falconry is a growing attraction at many country fairs.



AIRGUN WORLD'S stand is over that way . . .



Many competitors take part in the Game Fair's target shooting events.

The main theme, of course, is country sports, and Gunmakers' Row with more than 500 ft of frontage, and Fisherman's Row will feature all kinds of supplies for their respective sports — shotguns and airguns, ammunition and accessories, and fishing tackle of every sort, together with a wide range of outdoor clothing for these and other country pursuits.

Along with these will be others catering for just about every conceivable interest of the country sports enthusiast, active or spectator. There will be books, boats, sporting prints and paintings, sculpture, weather vanes, paper weights, dog and game feeds, angling and safari holidays, dog kennels, car mascots, meteorological equipment and binoculars. Activities like fly tying, rod making, taxidermy and fish smoking will also be represented.

There will be plenty of life on the stands, wild and domesticated. A White Park bull will head the display at the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, which will also feature Longhorn cattle, Manx Loghtan sheep, Tamworth pigs and the Bagot goat. There will be Guide Dogs for the Blind; live wildfowl and domestic waterfowl at the British Waterfowl Association; hawks at the Hawk Trust; deer at the British Deer Farming Association (who will also be demonstrating their end product in the form of charcoal broiled venison burgers); ferrets at the popular 'Pugs and Drummers' section; and live butterflies from the British

Butterfly Conservation Society on the Hants and Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust stand.

For the first time, visitors to this year's CLA Game Fair will be able to obtain tickets and programmes in advance by post.

They can be obtained by sending a cheque with order and a stamped addressed envelope, together with details of the number required for each day to the Game Fair Office, Berrington House, St. Alkmunds Square, Shrewsbury.

Admission for adults is £5 for each of the first two days and £4 on Saturday, July 28. Children under 14 are admitted free and there is no charge for car parking.

Free entry to Broadlands House and the Mountbatten Exhibition is included in the Game Fair admission charge on all three days.

Ordering tickets in advance could save time at the gate as the event is expected to attract large crowds of followers of all the country sports as well as many holidaymakers and the general public from the surrounding area.

The Game Fair programme, used by many as a country sports reference book, will also be available from the Game Fair office from July 10, price £1.60 including post and packing.

CLOSE on a quarter of a million cartridges and the same number of clay 'birds' are expected to be used in three days at Europe's largest clay pigeon sporting shoot at the Game Fair.

Enthusiasts from complete beginner crack shots will be firing from 18 stands many as 6,000 people are expected to part in all events.

The main event is the open individual competition for the Famous Grouse Fair Championship which attracts many of the best known shots in the country usually leads to an exciting shoot-off on the last day. Competitors shoot a total of 'birds' from seven different stands, simulating the flight of different type game from springing teal and high flying pheasants to driven grouse.

Other competitions cater for members of the Country Landowners Association which organises the Game Fair, and for corps of journalists from Britain and abroad who will be covering the event on TV, radio and the press.

Always popular are two non-competitive team events, the pheasant flush and the duck flush. In the duck, teams of two gunners shoot a total of 30 birds, while in the pheasant flush 25 'birds' from each of two towers are thrown towards teams of three shooters. This makes an exciting spectacle for visitors and is enjoyed by the trappers — the 'backroom' boys who operate the spring traps that launch the clay targets.

Instruction by qualified experts for beginners and those wishing to improve their shooting will be available throughout the Game Fair at a cost of £2 for 10 clays. More experienced shots wishing to practise on various types of 'bird' can do so at a cost of £1 for five pairs.

AIRGUN WORLD CROSSWORD

by Les Herridge

ACROSS

1. ...the rabbit, and put it in the ... (3)
2. Relum's visual media (5)
6. Hunting companion? (3)
8. Consolidated score (5)
10. A foul way to prepare a weapon? (4)
12. Storage place for guns (4)
13. Standard sights (4)
14. Arachnid pistol (8)
18. Harbours the transfer (4)
19. Italian guns might be bought using this currency (4)
20. Fingerless hand warmers (5)
21. Pellet producers (3)
22. Hold on firmly to the pistol butt (4)

DOWN

1. Part of the paw goes on the end of the gun (3)
2. The sign-follower will find the rifle (7)
3. Component of break-barrel airgun (5)
4. Weihrauch prefix (2)
5. Drive up the scope mount (4)
7. Look briefly and see the pellet bounce off (6)
9. Knock unconscious in reverse, but it's all right! (2)
11. Must be removed from rabbit before cooking (8)
13. Highly decorative, eg overdone custom conversion (6)
15. Protected bird (5)
16. Cylinder closure is western term for shoot to kill! (4)
17. Needed for night hunting (4)



Any Questions . . .

Send your airgun queries to
**JOHN STEVENS, AIRGUN WORLD, 10 SHEET STREET,
WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE SL4 1BG**

John Stevens and Airgun World regret that it is not possible to answer every single question received. However, we shall publish answers or send personal replies to as many readers as we can, especially if you enclose a stamped self addressed envelope.

Dutch problem

I am considering buying an air pistol to do some serious 'plinking'. I have had no training in pistol shooting, but I have some experience at rifle shooting, including target air rifles. I should in any case want a pistol that will not hinder me in learning the basic aspects of pistol shooting, among them grip, sighting, trigger control, and so on.

Another criterion is cost. Ideally I should like to pay no more than £50 for the pistol I am looking for. To give you some idea of what is available here and for how much, I give the following list:

Zip	£16.22
Em-Ge	£29.00
Center	£39.30
Weihrach Model 70	£52.20
Webley Tempest	£54.65
Diana Model 5G	£61.62
BSA Scorpion	£64.00
Sheridan Pneumatic	£64.00

Of course, some of these pistols may sell under a different name in the U.K. but I should be interested you know if any of these pistols fit the bill. I do hope you will be able to help with some advice.

Ian Cressie,
The Netherlands.

I am familiar with all of the pistols which you mention, with the exception of the Zip. Of the others, some are more suited to serious target work than others.

I suggest that you look more closely at the Diana model 5G, the Weihrach model 70, the Em-Ge and lastly the Center (which does represent truly excellent value for money). Of those four I would prefer to use the Diana (Original in this country) but whichever of these four you choose, I would be surprised if it did not fit the bill.

What range?

I have just become the proud owner of a HW77 and would very much like to know the killing range of this excellent machine, and which pellets to use. Could you also tell me your expert views about the gun.

J. Horner
Pendleton, Salford 6

The effective range of various air weapons is a question which I am asked a great deal but it is impossible for me to give you more than rough guide. I recommend to beginners that 15-20 yards should be their maximum range regardless of weapon and only as your skill improves should you increase your maximum range beyond this.

Although the HW77 is a very powerful rifle well capable of clean kills on rabbits and similar quarry at 60-70 yards it would be foolish and irresponsible to suggest that this should in any way be taken as its maximum range — perhaps 40 yards is the absolute maximum range that an airgun should be used by a thoroughly experienced shot in ideal conditions.

Low power HW25

I have a Weihrach HW25 airgun which I have had for over a year now and I have recently sent it away to have a new main spring because it felt weak and wasn't producing much over 3ft lbs. When I got it back it hadn't improved by much. I would like to know what your view of what is wrong with my airgun?

Jamie Mash,
Little Marlow, Bucks.

There are so many factors which can contribute to a spring airgun developing only low power that I cannot put my finger on your problem without examining the weapon. I suggest you check that the piston washer is in good condition and fits the cylinder walls well and also that the weapon is correctly lubricated.

I feel that you have not got too much of a problem anyway as this weapon can only be described at best as low powered.

In the Grove

I recently acquired a .22 Jackal air rifle and after a few weeks' trial with just a back sight. I decided to fit it with a Tasco 605DVFM 4x20 scope.

I followed all the instructions in fitting the scope to the rifle and then zeroed it in properly. After a while the scope began to bounce off when I shot. I tightened it up and tried again — but to no avail.

I've since re-fitted the backshift, but can you suggest any other ways I might fit the scope because it's currently lying in the box unused.

Mark Glendinning,
Rochdale, Lancs.

Unfortunately the scope grooves on the cylinder of your air weapon are too shallow to be of much use with many scope mounting systems

All I can suggest is that you find yourself a gunsmith prepared to deepen the grooves for you.

Bisley Gold Cup

Thumbing through a back copy of *Airgun World*, I noticed something strange. Offered as the prize in the April 1983 competition was a Phoenix Arms Bisley Gold Cup air rifle.

Then, in your September 1983 issue, an Air Arms Rapide was offered as first prize. But, could you please outline the differences between these two guns.

I own two break-barrel guns. I'm now buying a short-barreled sidelever in .22 and have narrowed my choice down to the Air Arms Woodsman and the Webley Tracker. Which would you recommend?

Ken Lambourne,
London, N4

You're absolutely right! The Bisley Gold Cup and Air Arms Rapide rifles are exactly the same, but are marketed by two different companies.

If I was looking for a new short-barreled rifle, I'd choose the Webley Tracker.

Scope query

Could you tell me what scope mounts I should use on my air rifle. I was told if you use the standard mounts the scope creeps and what pellets I should use for my Feinwerkbau Sport .22 for vermin shooting.

Christopher Jordan,
Basildon, Essex.

There are three excellent mounts which you may fit to your Feinwerkbau Sport, all of which will combat scope creep. They are the Sports Match, the Apel and the Rhino.

I would suggest that your rifle will operate well using H&N Hollowpoint or RWS Superpoint pellets.

Phone, write or call

I am planning on getting a rifle and want to establish a shoot as soon as I can.

I know there are a lot of problems of getting a shoot and I know most of the ways of overcoming this like doing work in a farm for a few hours of shooting time. But the thing I would like to know is how you start in the first place.

Do you write a letter, ring or go round or whatever. I live in a village and there's quite a big farm near us with plenty of land which is infested with rabbits, pigeons, magpies, rooks, crows and many other vermin.

Do you think the military style kammo cream is alright for stalking?

I have one more question, that is do you think a silencer is necessary or recommended for vermin shooting, mainly rabbits.

D. C. Ayres
Ashford, Kent.

There is no officially recognised method of approaching farmers or landowners for shooting rights. All I would say is that it is far better to telephone, write or even call, providing that you are smartly dressed rather than to call in kammo gear with rifle

When you have secured your shooting rights you will find that there are many more important things which contribute towards a bag than military-style cream and silencers, both of which are, in my opinion, entirely unimportant.

Pump Count.

I've recently bought a Sharp Innova air rifle in .22 calibre and would like to know how many times I have to pump it to obtain the maximum power from the weapon.

Trevor Hughes,
Deeside, Clwyd.

I've used the Sharp Innovas that were at maximum power after only four strokes of the pump and others that needed six or seven! It really seems to vary from gun to gun.

You can normally tell when your air reservoir is fully charged, though, because at some point in the last stroke of the pump you will suddenly feel less resistance. This will be accompanied by a slight puffing noise as the release valve blows.

Canada is an

CANADA, the second biggest country in the world, has over 1 ½ million square miles of forest and brushland and over 600,000 freshwater lakes and rivers. This, combined with ideal seasonal changes, liberal gun laws and underpopulation (only 24 million people) means that Canada really is an airgunner's paradise.

With an almost overabundant supply of game both big and small, together with plenty of vermin, good hunting areas are easily accessible — in fact farmers and landowners welcome vermin shooters because they know this means protection for their crops.

Those in Canada who know about my thirst for airgun collecting and airgun hunting can't understand why I use an airgun instead of a firearm — compared to Britain firearms laws in Canada are fairly liberal, so it isn't all that difficult to get hold of a hunting rifle if that's what you want. I simply tell doubters that I use an airgun for the pure love of the sport and for the very real challenge that airgunning offers. Also, to me, a spring and piston arm seems more alive in its mechanics than a conventional firearm. It's unfortunate that so few people in Canada appreciate the airgun as I do!

In Canada the natural habitat varies so greatly that a wide variety of small and large game animals and birds can be hunted and the right air rifle and pistol must be used to ensure clean kills. I've customised a number of air weapons from the Webley Hurricane for small game to a custom Feinwerkbau rifle and large bore .36 and .50 calibre pneumatic stock reservoir rifle with interchangeable barrels.

One of my favourite winter hunts is the Canadian cottontail rabbit. The cottontail is considered a game animal in Canada and one can shoot a maximum of only six per day. Because the cottontail can be found everywhere, in both heavily and lightly wooded areas, I use two specific weapons and also two hunting techniques to match. The custom Webley Hurricane offers a great challenge for densely-wooded areas where a good close shot at the cottontail is possible.

My Webley Hurricane is equipped with a solid, maple stock and forearm and fitted with a 4 power scope, sighted in for approximately 25ft. I find that Sabo or Prometheus pellets provide the maximum shocking power and penetration possible for an air pistol. Through the years I've experimented and found that the cottontail is quite consistent in certain habits so shooting it with an airgun is a little more practical.

With the Webley Hurricane pistol I prefer the smaller areas of evergreen for closer shots. A word of warning: before entering a thicket the other members of the group should surround the evergreen area (always



The author directs his fellow hunters through an evergreen area.

keeping safety in mind) to help deter the cottontail — after it's been flushed by the hunter — from running out of the brush area and out of range of the pistol.

A typical winter hunt with the Webley began after two days of thawing and in higher temperatures.

It's now 7am and time for the group, along with our photographer Steve, to hop in the car and locate two or three evergreen thickets to work in the hope that this hunt will be as successful as previous hunts. Because of the abundance of forest and brushland, it's only a matter of minutes before we find our wilderness area. Steve, with an eye for scenery, spots a clump of evergreens hidden among an acre or two of young maple saplings: he can't wait to get to the area! Tom, Art and Steve encase the evergreen area. Steve, snapping pictures right and left, is also acting as our back-up with a firearm.

Trying to maintain maximum power while hunting with the Hurricane I insert the pellet in the barrel without cocking the pistol. You have to move quite slowly when working these thickets and, at times, a half an hour can pass without anyone firing a shot. I've never found it a good idea to leave a spring gun cocked for any length of time, but the disadvantage in leaving the pistol uncocked is the extra movement needed in cocking it after you've spotted the cottontail. You always risk the animal running off before sighting in on it.

With everyone in position around the thicket I moved into the evergreen area.

Wearing camouflaging and keeping the sun to my side I move as slowly as possible while trying to cover every clump of brush possible for the tight-sitting cottontail. Half way through the thicket area — he's spotted two cottontails in front of me and to my right. Even though I haven't spotted them yet I slowly cock the Webley, trying at the same time to minimise movement. In a crouched position, continuing to move very slowly, I finally spot one of the two cottontails about 20ft away. Because I'm using a pistol I remember that a head shot must be taken and for that a clear view is

The end of a successful hunt — a brace of cottontails.



airgunners paradise

says John Cryderman

essential. It's either now or never to shoot.

The cottontail is sitting perfectly still and the cross-hairs of the 'scope are exactly on target. A deep breath is taken and slowly released; I squeeze off the shot — it's a hit! — The other cottontail is flushed to the outskirts of the thicket by the noise of the pistol, almost in front of Art. Art spots the rabbit and slowly moves out of the danger range of my airgun. I slowly move towards the animal quickly cocking and loading the pistol. Another round is fired and a second cottontail is shot and secured.

THE SECOND DAY OF THE HUNT

The second weapon used for hunting cottontails in the light wooded areas is the Webley Mark III underlayer of the custom Feinwerkbau rifle. I prefer the Prometheus or heavy German pointed pellets in .22 calibre because of the longer shots required. Every now and again I add a little nostalgia to the hunt by using a Webley Mark II Service or a BSA pre-war standard underlever rifle, both equipped with custom sights.

The Webley Mark III is really the ideal weapon for me due to its modest length and shorter cocking stroke. Hunting the cottontail in wooded areas where brush piles and wood lots are abundant requires two people — one to beat the brush or wood pile and the other, the hunter, positioned in the appropriate spot and, of course, camouflaged to blend with the existing area.



Invariably the cottontail maintains certain habits with great consistency. In an area such as this, once the animal is flushed it will usually follow a pattern of running to stopping points as marked, returning to the point from which it had been flushed. A very important role played in this style of hunting is the position taken by the hunter. I would never use an air pistol for hunting in this manner because of the longer shots required. More patience, perhaps a little more skill and accuracy and certainly more stamina is needed due to the larger areas to be covered.

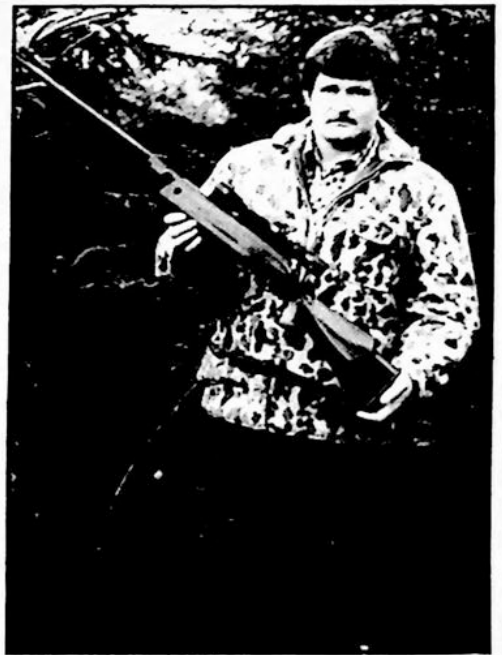
One of our favourite areas to hunt cottontails thus is four kilometres from home and is truly ideal, with over 300 acres of bush, valleys and streams, a natural habitat not only for cottontails but for raccoons, foxes, brush wolf, deer, squirrels, muskrats and a variety of game birds such as quail, ducks, geese, wild turkeys, doves, pheasants etc.

Squirrels, unfortunately out of season, scurry around us and up and down the valley trees surrounding the bush land. Crows and starlings are perched in the tall oak and elm trees ahead and pigeons are flocking to the fields to clean up the kernels of corn left from the previous fall harvest.

Walking into the woods to the area supporting the greatest number of brush piles, Art and Steve flip a coin to determine which pile to work first. Going along with their choice I take my position using the Webley Mark III rifle fitted with a 6 power scope. This time, in contrast to the Webley pistol, I'll keep the rifle cocked. Once the cottontail flushes it's a matter of the animal taking one of two directions to run or escape and it will not necessarily stop at the ideal point for the best shot. Because of this there is very little time to cock the rifle. It's usually a 15 second decision to spot the cottontail, sight in for a head shot and fire.

Steve and Art now beat the brush but nothing moves. After 10 minutes we give up and move to another area and another brush pile. This time Steve uses a long thin branch to probe the pile while Art jumps up and down on it. I have taken my position and anxiously wait.

For some reason the longer we go without spotting a cottontail the more intense I become. Steve and Art vigorously work the pile, again nothing moves. Just then Steve yells out that two cottontails have taken off. Excitement is now at its peak. I haven't spotted them yet but from Steve's elevated position he can see them clearly. He tells me they are approximately 60ft to my right and both are sitting about 10 feet apart. I am still unable to spot them so I tell Art to work his way to the other side of where the cottontails are sitting. This



John shows off his custom Feinwerkbau rifle.

would give me the opportunity to get closer for a clearer more effective shot without having the two animals run further into the woods.

While sitting still one cottontail moves towards me and it's now clearly visible. Steve, in just as much excitement, focuses his camera. The cottontail is now in the crosshairs of my scope. Again, and as always a little out of breath I slowly squeeze the trigger, it's a secure shot. The other cottontail runs out of range and out of sight.

It's been a short but a very enjoyable afternoon and both Steve and Art are on shift and must turn back.

As usual, I and the boys get the greatest pleasure and challenge from airgun hunting and find it to be a truly enjoyable sport and outing.



John also uses a customised Webley Hurricane pistol.

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HINTS FOR HUNTERS

Aiming and shooting — Part II by Fred Grimwade

IF YOU have been practicing shooting for the last month in the prone position using a rest as I described in a recent issue of *Airgun World* you should by now be something of a marksman. Your trigger finger will have learned to SQUEEZE the trigger instead of pulling it, your breathing will be improved from a shooting point of view and your eye muscles will be relaxed as you sight at the target.

In fact your body will now be tuned to enable you to shoot with quite amazing accuracy. Easy wasn't it?

But you have only just begun to tread the road to airgun marksmanship that will produce results in the field. The mark of the hunter is judged by the amount of game he brings home, not by how many neat holes he can place in a paper target.

Any hunter makes use of the terrain in which he happens to be. A standing man is a large object likely to be spotted by the quarry he is hunting, therefore the air-gunner makes use of any cover he can find and also learns to shoot from some pretty awkward positions.

The two basic open sight methods of aiming are pictured here. Top is the target with the signs set at 25 yards. The marksman can easily see the whole of his target and it appears to be balanced on top of the foresight blade. Below is the sight picture at long ranges, how long the range

of course depends on the velocity of the pellet and this can only be determined with practice.

If you set your sights at 25 yards and leave them there, you will soon be able to judge where the sights should be in relation to the target. **You won't have time to fiddle with the sights when the target presents itself!**

Practice standing, squatting, kneeling, etc and make use of anything you can lean on to steady your aim, this is not laziness, just plain common-sense. As you change position you may find that your pellets no longer dissect the bullseye, once again you must practice until they do.

Practice shooting at small pieces of chalk at varying ranges or seal up egg-shells with masking tape and see how you fare sinking them as they float in a running stream. Be careful though, about ricochets on water. At all times make sure that your background is absolutely clear each time you take a shot.

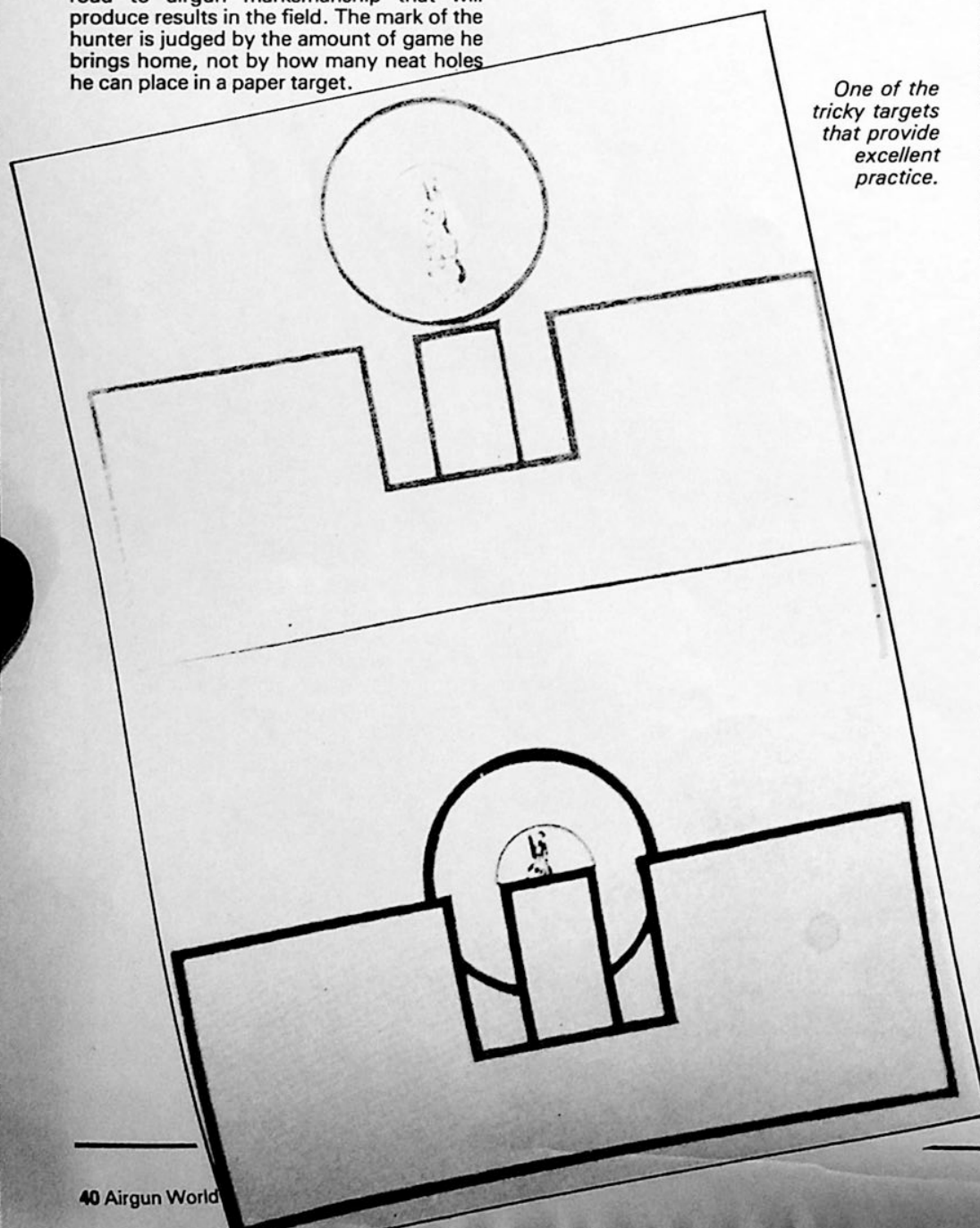
Stick to the same rifle until you become so used to it that it literally feels as if it is a part of you. Always remember that there is absolutely no substitute for continuous practice, no matter what 'wonderful and exotic' equipment you may own, a practised marksman will always outshoot the novice.

After a few thousand shots at differing targets from varying ranges you will begin to surprise yourself. The blade of grass will obediently fall in two and the piece of chalk will explode into dust at near and far ranges. Your arm muscles will develop so that constant cocking of the rifle will become effortless.

Then one evening as the light begins to fade so that you cannot see the open sights you will discover an amazing thing — you are still hitting the target! The moment has arrived, the magical fact that you are shooting by instinct. You have reached the point that if you miss you will at once suspect that the pellet was faulty or something is wrong with the gun. Your confidence in your own ability to shoot will be so that if you will always doubt that the miss was your fault!

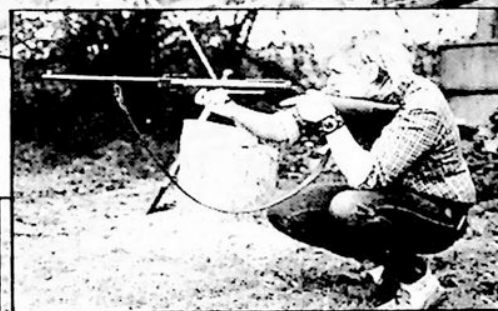
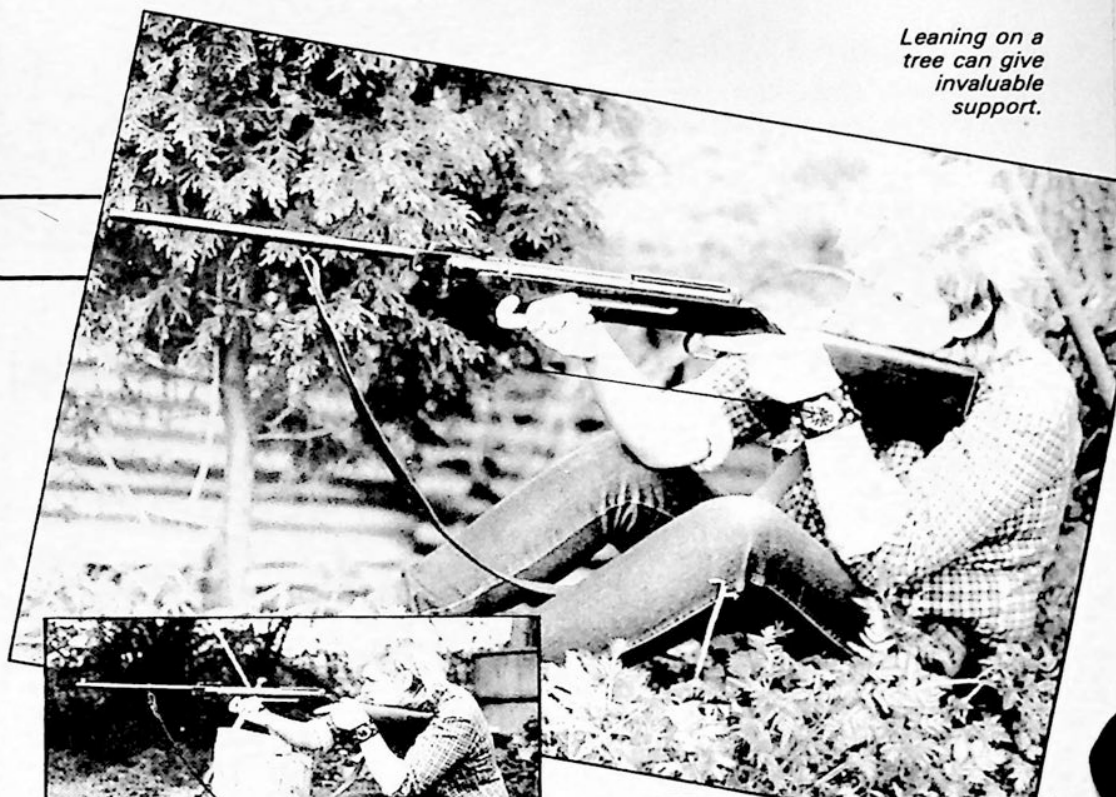
Sure enough, if your shooting goes

One of the tricky targets that provide excellent practice.



A steady firing position is all-important.

Leaning on a tree can give invaluable support.



*Inset:
An
awkward
shooting
position
makes life
difficult.*

*Above:
Shooting through
a wood is more
difficult.*

*Below:
The deluxe way of killing
quarry.*

astray it will be very likely that something is amiss with the gun and the time to check it over has arrived. Very likely people will mutter that you are a 'natural' shot and will never be aware of the many hours of toil that you have put into your shooting, but however good you are the actual hunting is something that must be learned slowly and painstakingly as well.

But you will have your greatest asset, the ability to hit whatever you aim for within the limits of your rifle. Without it, you will be as useless as a snooker player with a bent cue on a sloping table.



Recipe roundup

Remember a couple of month's back when we asked readers to let us have their favourite recipes for the quarry they shot? Well, you certainly answered the call, and by the hundreds. It only goes to show that not only do you enjoy your shooting but you certainly make the most of what you've bagged. Here we've published but a few of the mouth-watering recipes you supplied. They'll be more to come in future issues. Meanwhile a £5 note is on its way to Patrick Dames of Coleford, Gloucestershire, for his rabbit soup — I've tried it and it's delicious — Editor.

From Patrick Dames, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

Rabbit Soup

½ a rabbit
1 onion (skinned & sliced)
stick of celery (scrubbed & sliced)
salt and pepper
3 level tablespoons flour
teaspoon redcurrant jelly
Forcemeat balls (optional)
2oz butter
2oz lean ham or bacon, diced carrot/turnip, peeled and chopped
Bouquet Garni
3 pints beef stock
1 glass of port
squeeze of lemon juice

Method: The tougher parts of the rabbit (legs, head) may be used for the soup. Cut them into pieces and break or chop the bones. Fry the meat and bones in the fat with the onion and the ham or bacon for 5 to 10 minutes, until well browned. Add the other vegetables, Bouquet Garni seasoning the stock, mix well, cover and gently simmer for 3 to 4 hours. When the meat and vegetables are soft, strain off the liquid through a sieve and rub some of the meat through. Allow the soup to become cold, skim off any fatty layer and return it to a saucepan to reheat. Blend the flour with the wine to a smooth cream. Stir in a little of the hot soup and return the mixture to the pan with the redcurrant jelly. Bring to the boil, stirring until the soup thickens, then cook for a further 5 minutes and add the lemon juice and more seasoning if necessary. If the blood from the rabbit has been kept stir it into the soup, but don't boil again or the soup will curdle. A garnish of forcemeat balls can be served with this soup.

From Michael Pittaway, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Rabbit in red wine

2 small rabbit or squirrel
¼ pound butter
3 tablespoons flour
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper
2 cups red wine
1 cup water
2 cups chopped mushrooms
Cut the meat into serving pieces. Knead together half the butter, flour and seasonings and rub each piece of meat with this mixture. Bring the remaining mixture to high heat in a pan and brown the pieces of meat to a light tan. Mix the wine and water, pour into the pan and add the mushrooms. Cover pan with tight fitting lid and allow to simmer for an hour or until meat is tender.

Rabbit Stew

2 to 3lbs rabbit, jointed
1 level tsp pepper
1 onion (skinned and sliced)
½ pint of chicken stock
1 level tsp sugar
2 tpsps chopped parsley
2 level tpsps salt
2oz butter or margarine
¼ pint of white wine
8oz can of tomato puree
2 level tpsps flour

Method: Season the rabbit pieces with some of the salt/pepper and brown in the butter. Add the onion, stock, wine and remaining seasoning and simmer, covered, for ¾ to 1 hour. Remove the rabbit pieces and onion and keep hot. Stir the tomato puree and sugar into the liquid. Blend the flour with 2 tablespoons cold water. Add to the mixture, until the mixture thickens. Replace the rabbit an onion and add the parsley, then simmer covered, till heated through. Arrange on a large hot dish and sprinkle with more parsley, if desired. Serve with browned potatoes.

Roast Pigeon

Oven temp: very hot (150F, Mark 8). Select your birds for roasting. Pluck and draw them, singe if required and truss them. Spread with some softened butter and tie a piece of bacon over their breasts. Roast in the centre of the oven for 15-20 minutes, according to size, basting well and removing bacon before the finish of baking to allow the breast to brown. Add a garnish of watercress and serve gravy or a sauce separately. If liked, the pigeons may be halved before serving.

From Mrs Frances Wilde, Liversedge, West Yorkshire.

Pigeon Casserole

1oz butter
2 onions, chopped
2 carrots, sliced
2oz mushrooms, sliced
4 pigeon breasts (8 steaks)
½ pint stock
¼ tsp marjoram, salt, pepper, a little flour
Heat oven 350°F, Gas 4. Melt butter in frying pan. Cook onions, carrots and mushrooms for 5 minutes. Place in a casserole, brown pigeon breasts in pan. Remove and stir stock in frying pan until boiling, pour over pigeon in casserole. Add marjoram, salt and pepper and cook in oven for 1½ hours. Add a little flour to casserole to thicken gravy. Serve with vegetables.

From Ian Bent, Stourbridge, West Midlands.

Roast Rabbit

1 large rabbit, cleaned and dressed
4oz breadcrumbs
2oz suet finely chopped
2 teaspoons chopped parsley
1 teaspoon of thyme
1 teaspoon lemon juice
Beaten egg or milk
salt and pepper
Method: Rub inside of rabbit with salt. Fill with stuffing. Sew up and truss. Brush with bacon dripping or melted fat. sprinkle with salt and pepper.
Place on side in roasting tin. Roast in slow oven (325°F, Gas mark 3) until tender in about 1½ hours. Turn at least once while cooking. Baste frequently with melted fat.

Hasenpfeffer

4fl ozs vinegar
¾ pint water
2 teaspoons salt
¼ teaspoon of pepper
½ teaspoon whole cloves
2 teaspoons sugar
4 bay leaves
1 medium sliced onion
2½ rabbits cut into serving pieces
3 tablespoons fat
2 tablespoons Worcester sauce
3 tablespoons flour
Method: Make pickling mixture with vinegar, water, salt, pepper, cloves, sugar, bay leaves and onion in a glass.
Place pieces of rabbit and sliced giblets in a bowl and cover. Allow to stand in refrigerator for 8-12 hours, turning pieces occasionally so they will absorb the flavour.
Remove the rabbit pieces. Save liquid but discard leaves and cloves.
Roll rabbit in flour. Heat fat or oil in a heavy pan and brown the rabbit in it, turning round to brown all sides.
Pour pickling mixture over rabbit. Cover pan and cook over low heat for about 1 hour or until tender.
Take rabbit from pan and keep it hot. Add Worcester sauce to the liquid. Mix 3 tablespoons of hot liquid to it and pour back into pan. Stir and cook until the sauce is thick and smooth then cook a little longer. Pour sauce over rabbit. Serves 4.

Rabbit in Casserole

1 rabbit, cut up
1oz butter or margarine
3 tablespoons flour
2 tablespoons flour
2 tablespoons cooking oil
1 teaspoon salt
8fl oz Claret or Burgundy
½ teaspoon pepper
2-3 diced fresh tomatoes
2-3 sticks of celery, diced
3 tablespoons sugar
Method: Shake rabbit pieces in paper bag with flour, salt and pepper. Brown in butter and oil in a frying pan. Remove to casserole dish. Pour wine into a pan, stir well, then pour into dish. Cook in slow oven (325°F, Mark 3) for 1 hour. Serves 6.

Top Tips

The page where you can pass on your airgun hints

SEND YOUR TIPS TO: Top Tips, Airgun World, 10 Sheet Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1 BG.

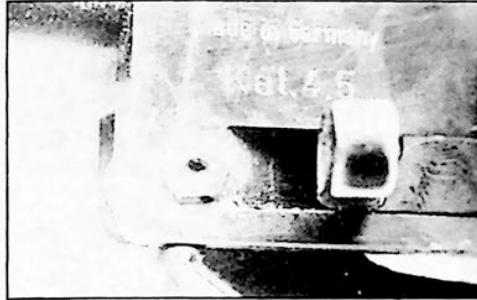
From Neil Fordham of Arundel, West Sussex

I have a tip for stopping "scope creep" on BSA Meteors. My Meteor came with a peep sight as well as an ordinary sight. The former is mounted on the back of the cylinder on a black plastic plate with the screw provided.

First, however, you must cut about 4mm off the end of the screw — if you don't it may go through the cylinder to touch the main spring.

You'll find that the plastic plate goes over the end of the scope rails and will stop your scope creeping off the end of the rails. Make sure you push the scope hard against the plastic plate when you put your scope on.

From Mr A. Warrillow of Cambridge



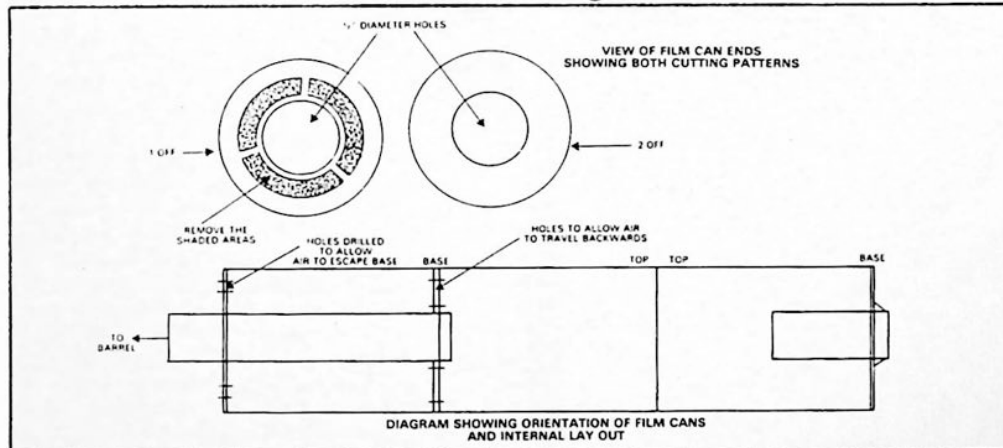
I've managed to make a useful modification which fits both the Weihrauch HW35 and the BSA Mercury — and I'm sure that other readers would

be able to modify it for other rifles and pistols.

The new modification (as you can see from the photograph), allows the cocking lever to be removed, but it leaves the barrel untouched — especially important in the case of the HW35 because of its fiddly barrel-shim. The piston I've made can be withdrawn very easily and in very little time, which means that the barrel pins or bolts are less likely to be damaged even if the barrel is removed frequently.

I used a steel pin (a dowel rod would do) of 6mm diameter and cut to length — if the dowel is reasonably tight there is no need to drill and tap in a retaining screw.

From Michael Fife of Middlesborough, Cleveland



I'd like to describe a very simple sound-moderator I managed to make after a certain amount of trial and error — all you need are some 35mm film cans and some 1/2in (outside diameter) plastic piping. I fitted my moderator to a Sharp Innova, but with a bit of thought it could easily be adapted to fit almost any airgun.

First you need to drill a hole through the centre of the base of the film cans (they're called cans, but they're actually made from plastic). I find that the easiest way to do this is to heat up a 1/2in diameter steel rod and then melt a hole through, but a 1/2in drill would do. The base of one of the cans must then be almost completely removed (see illustration) to let the air through, but leave sufficient support around the drilled hole.

The fore-sight and barrel support piece must be drilled accurately to accept the 1/2in diameter pipe tightly — this to prevent slack which could cause the barrel and moderator to move out of alignment.

Fully push the pipe into the fore-sight and then slide one of the film cans over the pipe so it fits close up to the sight, with the top end pointing away from the gun. Mark the pipe 3/8in past the open end of the can and then cut the pipe at that point, taking care that the cut is square to the sides of the pipe. At the other end of the moderator, cut 1in of pipe and check that it fits the hole in the film can — don't glue this yet! Assemble the moderator as I've indicated in the drawing, by sticking the film cans together with black insulation tape and then push the pipes in. The front pipe can be glued, but the back pipe is best left unglued. Check the moderator for alignment right along its length, otherwise you may find that the end of your moderator is missing after your first shot!

When the whole thing has set, drill some 1/16in holes in the back of the film can nearest the barrel to allow the air to escape, fit your gun then get shooting!

From Ian Armstrong, Mizlom, Cumbria

BSA Meteor airgunner read on . . . because if you're having trouble with the pin that holds the cocking link to the barrel hoops as it is working loose, then I have the solution.

I have bought a rubber grommet and cut it to the size required for a Meteor to strengthen the mechanism.

I put the grommet between the link and barrel, and now, I'm glad to say, the pin passes through as it should do.

The pin for my Meteor hasn't shifted since I successfully completed this operation.

From Christopher Eastwood of Halifax, West Yorkshire

My tip is aimed at those airgunners who like experimenting with the mechanisms of their BSA Meteors. Most of the power from a spring rifle — obviously enough — comes from the spring. With this knowledge in mind I decided to fit two springs — the second inside the normal meteor mainspring. For my inner spring I used a Diana G2 pistol spring.

To fit the extra spring you need to cut down the mainspring guide tube to make room inside. Cut it down to 1 1/2in; if the spring becomes coil-bound when assembled just take more off the guide tube until the spring stops binding. When the piston locks up nicely with the sear, test fire the rifle — I think you'll be surprised by its power. But one word of warning: have the gun chronographed to make sure you're still within the law.

Another hint for improving power: drill holes along the sides of the piston. This reduces the weight of the piston.

Hunting with father

I HAD an urge, on the late summer Saturday morning of the week after my son had buried his aged pet gerbil Rodney, (it was dead, of course), to see if he had summoned the energy to clean out and dismantle the cage. With a certain degree of dread and loathing, I resolved to enter the forbidden inner sanctum of his bedroom and make a quick inspection. As I suspected, there were the cage, gerbil food, sawdust and chewed cardboard rolls, still untouched, with an air of derelict permanence beginning to develop around them.

"Oh well", I thought, "I suppose I had better dismantle the cage myself. If I leave the debris for him to dispose of, it will become a listed historical monument!"

With the air of long-suffering resignation characteristic of most parents of teenage heavy-metal freaks, I began.

Ten exquisitely boring, but reasonably productive minutes later, when I was well into removing my third bucket of gerbil droppings, to the accompaniment of the sound of trampling hooves up the stairs, my son arrived home. Hurling himself onto his bed from a suitably ridiculous distance, he lay back and assumed a dormant position, obviously hoping that I wouldn't notice he was home, and could possibly help in my self-imposed task.

"Richard", I said, determined not to fall for this cunning ploy, "For crying out loud, give me a hand with this ruddy cage, before I go berserk!"

"Okay, dad", he replied, and then put in the body blow, which he knew would dissipate my annoyance, "How do you fancy an afternoon's shooting. Uncle Dave is away for the weekend, and he suggested that you might like to go over to the shoot in his place?"

"Sounds fair enough to me. In fact it's a great idea", I said, suddenly placated, "But let's get this job out of the way, first, shall we?"

Wind sighing through the tree-tops, and a slurr of leaves beneath the car tyres, welcomed us to the rook wood, as we arrived at the shoot, later that day. A heat haze hung over the wheatfields, and a tremulous breeze chased yellow and white butterflies in and out of bushes at the edge of the wood. We emerged quietly from the car, taking care not to slam doors or boot lid, as we extricated our guns and equipment. Sighting-in had already been carried out at home with the aid of our Knockdown targets, so, if the airgun gremlins were asleep today, we were all set to go.

Richard picked up his Feinwerkbau Sport .177, adjusted his camouflage clothing, and informed me that he was off to stalk the rabbits which frequented a clearing on the other side of the wood. He disappeared silently on his way, and I was left to my

own devices, sitting on the bonnet of my venerable Ford Escort, drinking in the cool beauty of the wood around me, and listening to squirrels rampaging through the boughs above.

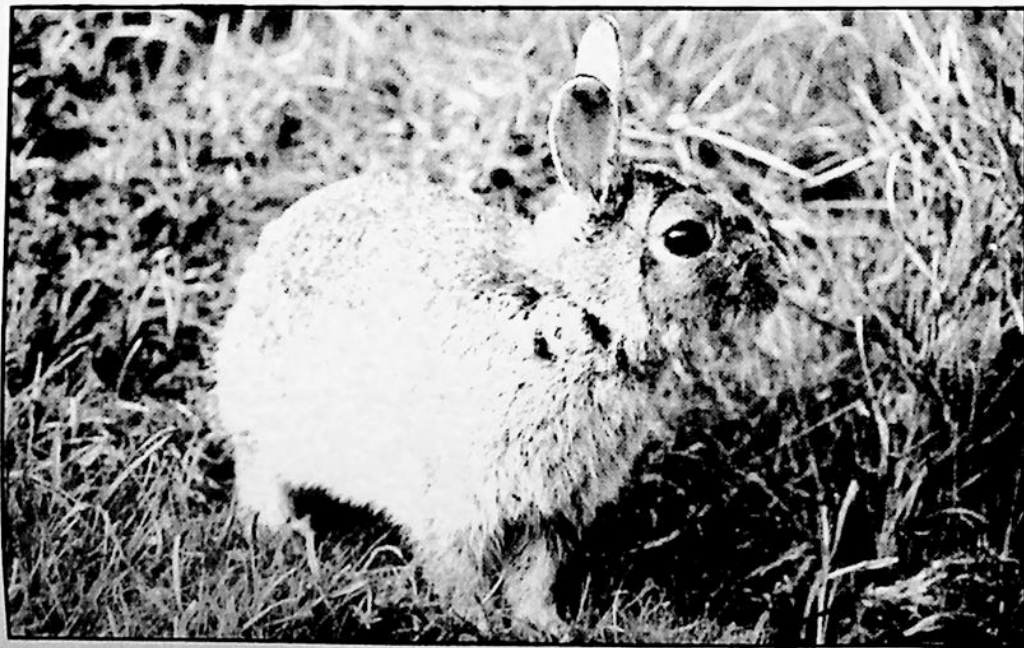
At that time in my shooting career, I was using a Mark two Webley Vulcan in .22 calibre as my hunting gun, and RWS Superpoint ammo; a fair combination, which was capable of one inch groups at 25 to 30 yards. This outfit, with a Tasco VFM 611 scope, had proved most effective at all sensible ranges. I had fitted my own design of two-stage trigger, which helped with delicate shots, and generally improved the feel of the gun.

Leaning back on the car bonnet, and enjoying the air of peaceful solitude, I was eventually reminded of the reason for my presence there by a sharp, "Crack", echoing through the trees. "Richard's gun," I mused, "Blast, the little swine has shot something already. He'll be back with it in no time, doing his Daniel Boone act all over the place. I must get off this crummy car and hunt something!" With an agile leap, I stumbled from my perch, and lurched to the ground.

The squirrels I had watched earlier were no longer in evidence, so I picked up the Vulcan, and headed into the middle of the wood, where I hoped I might find an unsuspecting, congenitally stupid squirrel or rabbit. Nearing the centre, I bypassed a deep pit, which a local farmer used as a dump. Consequently, this was the home of a large colony of rats. A stealthy approach and I observed one small rat, sitting with complete unconcern, washing its whiskers on an empty bean tin. I raised the Vulcan to my shoulder, judging the range as 15 yards, and took careful aim. Had I not "pulled", the shot, the rat would have died, but as always up to this date, I avoided the actual kill. I did then, and still do enjoy the hunt, but as far as possible, would, and still will avoid the destruction of a living animal. I only indulge my atavistic instincts so far!

Leaving the fortunate rodent to continue with its ablutions elsewhere, (it had vanished instantly, as the Superpoint punched through the tin a fraction beneath its feet), I pressed on into the wood, scanning the trees for squirrels. A pair of crows flapped by overhead, giving me and my Vulcan a disdainful "caw", as they passed. They knew that they were out of range, and were quite content to remain so. Watching the crows, "thumbing their noses", at me, my peripheral vision detected a small, fast movement in the higher branches of a nearby tree.

"Squirrel", I thought, and turned my attention and my gun, toward it. Sure enough, there was the little perisher, sitting 25 metres up on a bough, gnawing at an



Richard went after rabbits.

acorn, in the disarmingly attractive manner of its kind. The Vulcan was loaded, but not cocked, so I had a difficult task to perform, if I were to cock it without alarming the squirrel. In the actual event, I believe I could have banged on a dustbin lid, and still not have disturbed this particular squirrel. It was completely absorbed in its nut cutlet. For a moment, I suspected it might be stuffed.

I took a chance, and as unhurriedly and smoothly as possible, cocked the gun. Up to the aim, and once again I held a potential victim in my sights. The first stage of the trigger pull eased off, and I readied myself to increase the pressure by the miniscule amount required to fire the gun. A microsecond before my shot left the barrel, there came a "Whack", from behind me, and the squirrel collapsed from its perch. My shot, as intended, hit the branch an inch to the left of where the squirrel had sat. I turned to see my clever-dick son, a big, stupid smile all over his face, standing there with his gun still raised.

"Sorry about that, Pops", he said, "But I knew you wouldn't aim to actually hit it, so I thought I'd help out." I experienced my usual sense of regret at the sight of the squirrels dead body, but I knew that Richard was right. Vermin, such as our friend the squirrel, have to be controlled by some method, to minimise the amount of damage they do to woodland and crops. In practice, the most humane method of achieving this is by shooting with a sufficiently powerful and accurate gun, handled by an expert. Richard and his Mastersport Feinwerkbau .177 certainly fitted the bill.

I waited while he took the squirrel's tail, and, picking this and the rabbit which he had shot up, we began a casual walk back to the car. The afternoon wore on, warm, and so far dry. Warm enough in fact to make the occasional rest of a convenient log or grass patch, a pleasant interlude, and as we once again came in sight of the refuse pit, I sat down for a breather on a discarded wooden crate. Richard sloped off around the far side of the pit, looking for unwary rats. The air hummed with insects, and as I sat in a pleasant trance, gazing at a heap of brown, rotting straw, I slowly became aware that I was looking at something which was more interesting than it at first appeared. The straw was riddled with holes. Several of these opened in my direction, and looking into them, with increasing anticipation, I could see a faint movement within. A short, tense wait, and a sharp nose probed the air from the lowest hole, whiskers twitching wildly.

A large grey-brown rat emerged, and

looked around cautiously. I was sitting directly in front of the animal, at a distance of about 25 yards, but it did not appear to see me. The breeze, such as it was, blew from the straw toward me, so I knew that scent wise, I was undetectable. Watching the rat, it occurred to me that this could be one of those rare, indefinable days when game seems to be extraordinarily careless of its safety. Anyway, the rat failed to see me. It sat immobile, like a surplus Muppet, when I raised the Vulcan and took aim. It remained immobile until the moment when my fourteen grain pointed pellet smashed through its skull, catapulting it backward in a broken heap. Surprise! Another rat crept to the entrance of one of the holes higher in the straw bale. I reloaded, tingling with the primeval excitement of the hunter after a successful kill.

Again the Vulcan cracked and the rat slumped forward.



A sharp crack echoed through the trees.

The sound of my shots and their successful result had frightened off any remaining small vermin, and attracted Richard, who strolled, with his Mastersport at the slope, out from behind a clump of trees.

"Heard the shot," he shouted. "Giving the old pellets a bit of harmless exercise again, are we?"

"Take a look over there, pal", I snarled, trying not to choke on a stray hank of beard, and spoil the effect, (I was going through one of my excessively hairy periods, at the time), "you'll find the latest of my hunting successes secreted in yonder heap of gungell" I reclined triumphantly on my box, and awaited his

stupefied gasps of admiration. He mooched over and looked at the heap of straw. "Where," he asked, in fiendish fake puzzlement, "Surely you don't mean these miniscule rats?" "Pack it in, you boring little cretin", I wailed, somewhat peeved, "Try showing a little respect for your aged parent's efforts. This brings my score to at least . . ." "Two rats?" he finished for me. "Quite", I snapped, and left the area in a marked manner.

We resumed our walk back to the car, with the light failing, and an increasing amount of cloud building up in a threatening sky. Soon, a stiff, cold breeze arose, making us quicken our pace. It was now obvious that we were in for a thunderstorm. Rain pattered through the topmost leaves, giving us the illusory feeling of dry safety below. It was a peculiar, not unpleasant sensation, but unfortunately couldn't last. Suddenly, it arrived. Sheets of icy rain slashed into the trees, accompanied by what seemed to us a howling gale.

Water began to penetrate the foliage above us, and dripped steadily all around. It soon found us, and small streams cascaded on to our unprotected head and shoulders, soaking Richard's light camouflage jacket, and my bright red shirt. I had always subconsciously believed that the best way to hunt game is to dress as inconspicuously as possible, thereby lulling the innocent, generally gormless small creatures into a false sense of security. After all, what sane bunny would suspect that the buffoon blundering toward it dressed as Coco The Clown is a serious hunter? Plus, there is the outside chance that it might be rendered helpless by levity, and give me an opportunity to rush up and grapple with it if I couldn't manage a quick shot. So much for theory. For some reason, it never seemed to work in practice. (Perhaps rabbits have no sense of humour?)

Minutes passed in increasing discomfort, and we'd had enough! "Told you we should have run for it", said my hypocritical wally of a son. A brisk, invigorating dash, with the heavens pouring ice-water over us by the bucketful, and we reached the car. Squelching in the front seats, the ride home was damp, uncomfortable, and seemed very long, but in common with life's other little unpleasantnesses, soon past and forgotten.

It wasn't long before I was hopefully straining my ears, willing myself to hear, (usually during some pointless chore, such as mowing the weeds), the dulcet tones of Honourable Number One Son, intoning, "Pops, how do you fancy an afternoon's shooting?"

OWNING top quality spring and pneumatic air rifles means I can do all types of shooting.

I have a .22 calibre Feinwerkbau for field target and plinking shooting, and that's where the constant pumping of a pneumatic rifle would soon become tiring.

I use the .22 Sharp Innova for shooting where long waits with the weapon cocked and loaded are necessary, and that would weaken the spring of the Feinwerkbau.

I bought a Galway single piece silencer a couple of years ago for my Feinwerkbau. It is the model that simply pushes over the muzzle after removing the foresight, and is held in position by two grub-screws, which are tightened to the barrel.

When I first received the silencer, I found I could not fit it to the rifle owing to the raised foresight mounting grooves fouling the perfectly round bore of the silencer.

A couple of hours of careful work with a small triangular file soon rectified matters, but this oversight was rather disappointing.

The other disappointment was the small effect the silencer had on the report of the rifle — it does have some effect, but not as much as I'd hoped.

The silencer, therefore, soon found itself relegated to the bottom strata of my come-in-hand cupboards, where it remained out of sight but never quite out of mind.

I had learnt through reading various articles in *Airgun World* that the rifles which most benefit from the addition of a silencer are pneumatics. The main drawback, however, seems to be the expensive muzzle adaptor you have to buy. It costs a packet but means the silencer can be fitted.

I decided to take the initiative. If you're like me and collect all sorts of bric-a-brac and come-in-hand bits, this isn't too difficult.

The first thing I did was hunt out a piece of tubing which was an exact fit for the

Silencer Innovation

by GERALD GOODWIN

silencer. The tube was made of stainless steel, but the material isn't important and even plastic can be used. It's probably more in keeping with the Innova's make-up, anyway. The excess tubing protruding from the silencer can be cut flush, leaving a stub of tubing inside the silencer.

What I needed was tubing to tie up the muzzle of the Innova with the stub tube inside the silencer. I eventually found a piece with an outside diameter of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. which would fit neatly inside my stub tube.

It had an internal bore of $\frac{3}{16}$ in., which would fit over the steel barrel of the Innova. But here comes the nasty bit — I cut a $\frac{1}{2}$ in. UNF thread at one end, and a female $\frac{1}{2}$ in. UNF thread inside the plastic Innova sight unit through where the barrel protrudes.

Make sure when you cut this thread that you do it exactly concentric to the bore, otherwise the silencer will have a crooked mounting.

This is the only critical work on the rifle, so take your time and get it right, it will pay dividends.

When you have done this, the barrel is still supported by the steel grommets in the recess at the rear end of the sight unit. Assemble the adaptor and the two are joined very effectively using Araldite.

Engineering buffs will say that it could be made from one piece of metal or plastic, and I would agree with you. But the only trouble is I didn't have suitable material to manufacture it that way. And I'm sure most readers haven't. This mere fact makes this an excellent exercise in making the most of what you've got.

Before joining the stub pipe to the threaded pipe, find a piece of straight rod of $\frac{11}{32}$ in. diameter which is long enough to pass through all the silencer and adaptor components, and hold them steady and dead-in-line while the Araldite is drying.

Figure 1 shows the drawing of my adaptor. The stub tube is made of stainless steel and the inner threaded tube is brass.

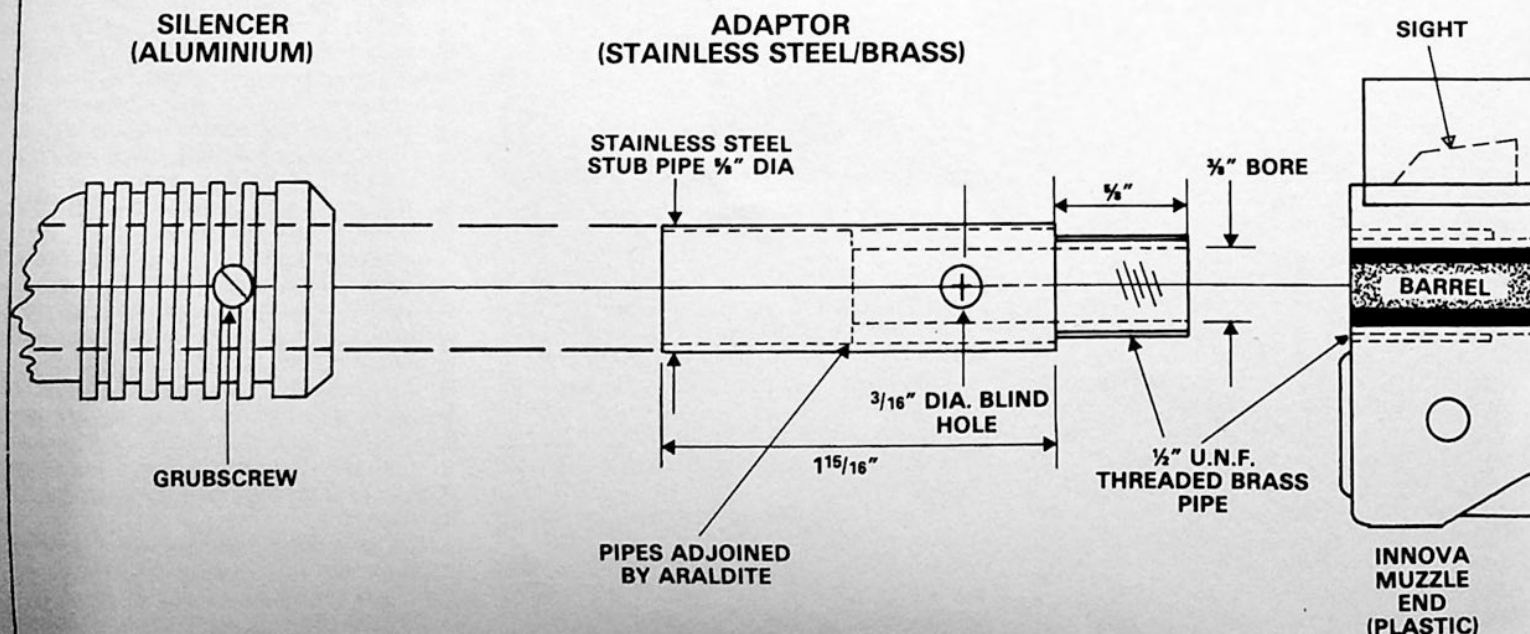
The blind hole you can see in the stub tube ties up with the end silencer grub screw, thus ensuring a more positive hold and correct assembly.

So now I have a silencer which I can use on the Innova to far more advantage than on the spring weapon for which it was originally purchased.

I have saved money by making this adaptor out of 'junk' tubing, and I borrowed most of the tools from friends who are engineers.

The best of British if you go ahead and 'Innovate'! I'm glad I did!

INNOVA SILENCER/ADAPTER — TO SCALE 1/1



The B.A.S.C. Column

B.A.S.C.



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SHOOTING & CONSERVATION,
MARFORD MILL, ROSSETT, WREXHAM, CLWYD LL12 0HL.
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The CLA Game Fair, which is this year to be held at Broadlands, Romsey, Hampshire, sees the introduction of a new section for airgun enthusiasts. It is being run by the BASC who say that they recognise the air rifle is a fundamental training weapon for newcomers to sporting shooting and this new section will not only provide coaching and instruction for beginners but also help to encourage correct use and observation of gun safety rules.

Centrepiece of the area devoted to field target shooting will be an open competition run each day of the Fair. Entrants will shoot at 30 Knock-down targets, at ranges from approximately 10 to 30 yards, simulating legal quarry species such as rabbit, squirrel, rat, crow, pigeon. Prizes will be awarded daily and the organisers are very grateful to Webley and Scott for their very generous sponsorship of this event. Entry fee will be £2.50 and most competitors will bring their own guns but guns and ammunition will be available for non gun owners to "have a go".

There will also be a long range shoot at three targets, at distances up to 60 yards and a bird shoot at targets on stands. Entry will cost 50p for each of these events. Expert instruction for beginners by qualified coaches will also be available at a nominal fee. The section will include a sighting range, a chronograph to check that guns are within with competition allowed limit of 12ft lbs and a running repairs workshop on site for competitors guns.

It is also expected that many of the stands which are directly interested in field target shooting will be located around the Game Fair Field Target Shoot. We look forward to seeing competitors and their friends at the end of July.

Club Affiliations

During May we were pleased to welcome two more clubs into affiliation, The Thame and District Air Rifle and Pistol Club and the Merton Air Rifle and Pistol Club.

The information pack we have prepared for field target and live quarry air rifle clubs wishing to affiliate to the BASC has proved extremely popular and we will be pleased to send a copy to any club secretary who writes to us at the Development Division, enclosing a large s.a.e. or a stamp to cover return postage.

Midland Game Fair, Weston Park

The Midland Game Fair will be held for the second time at Weston Park, near Newport, Shropshire on Saturday and

Sunday 15th and 16th September 1984. This year we will be incorporating our BASC Safari Dog and Gun competition with this event over the two days.

These will include the Dog and Gun Flush, Individual Dog and Gun, Open Straight Retrieve and Open Walk Up. We will also be running the popular Field Target Air Rifle Shoot, and the Sporting Shotgun Shooting Clinic will be present.

Further details of the whole event will appear in this column. If you would like to receive further information on the Open Working Tests for Spaniels and Retrievers please ring R.G. Wood on (0948) 840 726, and for general enquiries ring (05436) 71870.

Sporting Invitation Draw

Crucial to the BASC's fund raising effort is the annual Sporting Invitation Draw. Tickets for this were circulated with the Spring edition of 'Shooting and Conservation'. Conceived nine years ago, the draw offers as prizes a number of days shooting and fishing, many of which are donated by members. Prizewinners have the opportunity to share a day's sport with another member, and perhaps to experience an entirely new sporting activity. New contacts are made and long term friendships develop between host and guest.

Among the major prizes will be a two week shooting holidays in the San Francisco area and a one week shooting holiday in British Columbia. Other prizes include Pheasant shooting in Wales, driven partridge shooting, salmon fishing, roe stalking, inland duck flighting, coastal wildfowling and trout fishing. The Sporting Invitation Draw will be made in July, so there is still time to return your cash and counterfoils to Marford Mill. Don't delay, and you'll get your chance in this year's competition.

Beat the Bover Boys

Animal rights activists of the Animal Liberation Front appear to be intensifying their campaign of criminal damage against 'targets' which can be linked, even in the most tenuous way, with vivisection, intensive livestock farming, the fur trade and field sports. It takes a pretty devious mind to connect the high street trading activities of Boots or Debenhams with the commercial exploitation of animals, and yet a local ALF cell in Derby has, seemingly, decided to wage an all-out campaign against these stores, causing damage to plate glass windows costing several hundred pounds.

Meanwhile, a more traditional target has been found in the Hilton Gun Company, a Derby Gun shop, where ALF members broke windows, daubed slogans and poured glue into locks. Police reported that the slogans read "tools of death", "hunting scum out", and "blood sports scum".

Naturally, the police are doing all they can to trace the attackers, but meanwhile the victims can do little more than clean up the mess.

The activities of these 'bovver boys' of the animal rights movement, as they were recently described, are causing concern both to the police and to those involved in field sports, since sooner or later, someone is going to be hurt — or worse. Arson at the premises of Gilbertson and Page Ltd., the well known suppliers of game rearing equipment, which incidentally caused £50,000 worth of damage, could easily have ended in tragedy. Not least for the livestock which was rescued from buildings only yards away from the flames.

Leaders of the Country Sports Community recently met the Home Security, Mr. Leon Brittan, to express their concern, and the results of their discussion have been reported elsewhere, but what can the average field sportsman do to help? One clue lies in the well-established fact that the hooligans who proudly cause criminal damage in the name of the ALF are the same as those which demonstrate openly at other events, be they protests against fur farms or gatherings of Hunt Saboteurs at meets of hounds. There is always the opportunity to photograph demonstrators, take descriptions and note down vehicle registration numbers. Local police officers will find such information both useful and revealing.



AIR YOUR VIEWS

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Favourite Anschutz

I recently purchased a .22 calibre Anschutz 335 air rifle and have been amazed by its almost "match quality" accuracy, sweet firing cycle, and excellent two stage trigger.

It is neither; "as powerful as the law allows", nor "right up to the legal limit" but at 10½-11ft pounds energy its more than powerful enough for hunting at sensible ranges and weighing in at 7½ lbs its a lightweight compared to some of today's hunting air rifles.

I don't make these claims lightly. I own many "high quality" weapons including a Weihrauch export, Mercury "S", Sirocco deluxe, Original 45, etc but I find myself reaching for the Anschutz every time!

Why this is not a more popular gun I don't know, perhaps if you have to test this great little all-rounder the readers of *Airgun World* may reconsider before buying one of the more popular makes of gun available.

Anyhow, keep up the good work!

Ken Lambourne
London

Money Saver

Several weeks ago I decided to buy a 'Webley Tempest .177' in a local sports shop. Not knowing the retail price, or a cheaper price, I foolishly paid £57.50 for one, with no extras.

On buying your magazine I realised I could purchase one for around £40! So I promptly took the pistol back saying that my father had already bought one and purchased another from an agency in your magazine.

Thanks, you saved me twenty pounds.

T. J. Skilton
Rochester, Kent

Watch the bird

I feel I must reply to Mr Donald Ashe's letter, Any Question, June 1984, with regard to the potency of different calibres for pigeon shooting.

For some time now I have used a Sterling HR81 in .22 calibre for pigeons up to 40 yards. (I now use an HW77). Although 50% of the birds drop stone dead, a reasonable percentage fly off apparently unharmed.

My point is this. For heavens sake watch your bird for as far as possible, at least 200 yards, after shooting at it. A lot of my "unharmed" birds have dropped dead at this sort of distance, sometimes after landing in trees. Upon examination of the cadavers, the pellets — RSW Super-points — had gone clean through.

Surely if my legal .22 is capable of this sort of penetration, then Mr Ashe's .177 is more than capable. So please, if quarry is hit but escapes, watch it, it may die after a short flight, or land in a tree, giving you a chance of a stalk to finish it off, completing what you set out to achieve, killing a pigeon as humanely as possible.

Paul S. Thompson
Carlisle, Cumbria.

New Secretary

In your February issue, you asked for Secretaries to register their club which we did but since then there have been a change in Secretary. The name and address is now:

Allan Jones
Newport Ranges ARC
41 Baldwin Street
Newport
Gwent NPT 2LU

Delighted winner



Theoben Sirocco.

Many thanks for your letter telling me I had won the fabulous Theoben Sirocco Air Rifle. How delighted I am! When I read in the magazine the specification of the rifle I wondered how I could afford to buy one, but could not think of a way. When I saw the competition in the May issue — well, perhaps I just might win the rifle.

There are quite a number of air rifles on the island mostly .22 but I am fairly sure mine will be the only Theoben Sirocco!!!

Again many thanks.

Richard May
Isle of Lewis

Letter from America

Along with this letter I've enclosed a request for my subscription to *Airgun World*. I am very enthused with the magazine and what it does to promote, support, and inform the airgunner. I'm certain I never want to miss one more issue, like I've already missed the April 84 issue.

There are a lot of serious airgunners here in America. From the information afforded me by *Airgun World*, it's become obvious to me that we are not nearly "into" the sport of airgunning as you are in England. We have some good clubs here, and there are all sorts of game and hunting situations. I'd say the average age for most of us is 30-45 years old. I also might add that "silhouette" shooting is fairly popular here. I don't know how widely spread your publication is in the United States, but I'm sure, if you asked your American readers, you'd find many fine stories to fill your pages.

Some of the good guns are hard to get here, such as the Theoben and the Ensign. I'm sure you're aware Beeman is probably one of our biggest suppliers. I shoot with any one of my three guns — a Beeman R1 (HW80) in .177 and .22 calibre, or my RWS45 (Original 45) in .177. I prefer the more powerful guns, but even with them I generally won't take a shot at game further out than 35-40 yards.

Anyway, thanks for letting one of your American fans send a few words. Keep up the good work.

If anyone cares to drop me a few lines, I'll be very happy to answer letters.

Richard Oswald
18232 Barroso
Rowland heights,
California 91748
U.S.A.

FAC Sirocco

I feel I should 'butt in' on the question of high performance air rifles, having followed with great interest the debate between Jim Case and Mr D. Warrington.

I am the owner of a high performance air rifle, a F.A.C. Theoben Sirocco, which produces 22ft lbs muzzle energy. I use this with a 4x40 red dot Original Scope and Silver Jet pellets. I find this combination lethal in the field. The accuracy of the Silver Jet pellets which are designed for high performance weapons is outstanding.

It took me many weeks of trial and error with various pellets to settle on the Silver Jet. I don't think Jim Case has spent enough time and patience looking for the right pellet to give him the accuracy he requires at the ranges that a high performance air weapon is capable of.

As for Mr Warrington I feel I must back him up, as I myself get clean kills with head shots at 70 yards. Its easy enough to take a rabbit with a head shot between 50 and 70 yards if you have the rifle/scope/pellet combination in the right hands.

P. M. Munnen
Kidwelly, Dyfed

Unfair on Geoff

I am writing in defence of the unfair comments made by Derrick Murgatroyd in your Air Your Views column June Issue. He states that Geoffrey Boxall is biased in favour of German made weapons. Well all I can say to that is rubbish. Geoffrey marks them on quality and price which puts German made air rifles way above British weapons. I am sure when Geoffrey tests a new rifle he does so in an unbiased way using his long experience of using and owning air rifles of both German and English makes.

Landowners Plea

I write to acknowledge and sympathise with Rick Jando July issue in Air Your Views, entitled 'Permission to Hunt' and also to agree with D. H. Macready on some parts and many others.

To start, if many people are in the same boat as me, out of work, you just cannot afford £10 to shoot each time. I know of at least two dozen people in North Humberside area alone, such as the Hull and Hornsea area.

I myself live in Hornsea just outside of Hull which is the countryside and coast all in one. Lucky person, you may think, everywhere you look fields, beach and railway lines, and nowhere to shoot.

I have been asking for permission to shoot for 4½ years and I am still trying. There are no clubs to shoot at anywhere, if there is I cannot find one in my area. I would be grateful if any reader knows of one to let me know.

I also would like to sell up but my gun has had a lot of money spent on it and there's sentimental value, but no matter what reason, I will not give the landowners and people who are prejudice to airgunners the satisfaction of knowing they have got rid of another airgun fanatic.

So I will keep on trying for as long as it takes. I speak for many and say we need to shoot somewhere.

Remember landowners it's the minority of irresponsible airgunners not the majority that spoils it for others. Thank you *AIRGUN WORLD*.

M. T. Burnham
Hornsea, Humberside

ASI Magnum.

Derrick Murgatroyd also points out that his A.S.I. Magnum is more powerful than the one Geoffrey tested. That is nothing new because you will very seldom get two air rifles performing the same even when using the same pellet because of different manufacturing tolerances.

I am not biased against English weapons its just that I want, like many other air rifle users, the best quality, at the cheapest price and until things change I'll keep on buying German.

P. D. Farrer
Royston, Herts

Tele Gen

Love the mag. Love the guns, but how about a bit more gen on the tele sights.

Stephen Richards
Somerset

Premier barrel wanted

I'm depressed shocked but not in the least disappointed. This is the problem:—

Could you please tell me where I could get a .177 barrel for my Webley Premier MkII. I've just phoned up Webley and they can't help — no reflection on Webley and no ill feeling as they produced this excellent pistol in the first place! I've had years of fun with this pistol and two years ago I had a new spring fitted — more powerful than the original so I'm told and having seen an article in your magazine about making custom handles for such a pistol I set my father to work as he is a bit of a dab hand at things like that.

The result was a beautiful rosewood match-type handle with a thumb-piece included it really has altered the entire "feel" of the gun. So I would really like to know if there is anybody out there who has such a barrel who would part with it for a fair price, as I now have it into my head to join an air-pistol club.

Eventually I would like to buy a Feinwerkbau target pistol although at the moment funds prevent me from doing so.

Incidentally with regards to the names "Feinwerkbau roughly translated means "precision works factory" not a bad name after all!

Gregg Salter

Goring, Reading

Rabbits at 70 metres

Mr D. Warrington of St. Austell, Cornwall stated in the April issue that his 22ft lb Weihrauch kills rabbits at 77 yards (70 metres). This is perfectly feasible because at 77 yards his .22 pellet would be striking as hard as a .22 pellet from a 12ft lb weapon at 35-40 yards. I have killed many rabbits decisively at this range with an Airsporter.

These facts are born out in theory as well as practice from equations devised during the development of my power chart for .22 air weapons.

The extreme range of a 22ft lb weapon is only 35 yards or so further than the standard .22 rifle carrying 12ft lbs at the muzzle i.e. (350 + 35) yards. All that extra "thump" is available within the practical hunting range — where it is most needed.

After 35 yards the Weihrauch is down to 12ft lbs and is not really the equal of say a .22 Rimfire bullet which may carry 2,200-2,600 yards. I hope the experts at Whitehall realise this fact.

Roderick McCafferty
Kilwinning, Scotland.

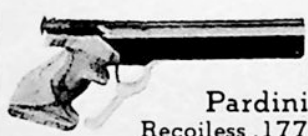
Praise for Webley

Whilst I have always held the view that British airgun manufacturers produce excellent guns I now am of the opinion that their service is equally praiseworthy. In response to an inquiry for a Hawk MKIII elevation adjustment screw I received the same by return post with a 'compliment' slip enclosed. Well done Webley. Foreign guns . . . who needs them?

Paul M. Mitchell
New Elgin, Moray

WE HAVE IN STOCK ALL COMPETITION AIR RIFLES AND AIR PISTOLS

Our prices are very competitive — Credit with pleasure
Written quotations available on request.



Pardini
Recoless .177

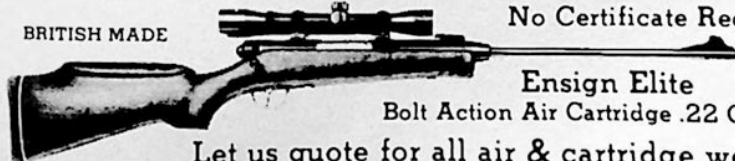


FAS 604
Recoless .177



Walther
CO2 Powered .177

BRITISH MADE



No Certificate Required

Ensign Elite

Bolt Action Air Cartridge .22 Cal.

Let us quote for all air & cartridge weapons

* Write or
phone for
illustrated
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May
of London

(Gunmakers) Ltd
35 Cherry Tree Rise,
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Telephone: 01-504 5946





by Geoffrey Boothroyd

YOU cannot help but notice that the name alongside "Collectors Corner" has changed this month. Instead of the "team" headed by John Atkins (who has moved to pastures new) there is but one name.

Who is this chap? Well, I'll introduce myself. I have been fascinated by firearms of one sort or another for over half a century. During this time I have tried most things with the exception of big game hunting but my abiding passion has been in the "why, how and when". Who made the guns, how were they made and when. Some 25 years ago I started to write about guns and to collect information and photographs. Of the latter I now have a "library" of some 15,000 and though few are of airguns I have used these for most of my life and I was particularly keen on serious air pistol shooting a good number of years.

Since 1968 I have written a weekly article for *Airgun World's* sister magazine *Shooting Times* and have written for magazines in America, Germany and other countries and have several books on some aspect of guns to my credit.

A weekly article takes up an enormous amount of material. When I started I felt that I would quickly run out of things to write about. No so! The reason was simple: I got a tremendous support from readers and I have, over the years, built up friendships from correspondence from all over the world.

I hope to be able to create a similar

relationship with the readers of *Airgun World* whose interests lie in vintage air weapons and, with your help, build up a "data bank" which will extend our knowledge of what is a fascinating subject. The literature available is by no means extensive and this is probably because the serious collection of vintage air weapons and their subsequent study is, by comparison, a fairly recent activity.

The sources of information are, of course, the patents, which in accessible form in the UK, cover the period 1855 to 1930; the published material by the manufacturers — fairly rare since catalogues are, sadly, all too often thrown away when the item is purchased; and then there is the instruction material in the form of booklets and single sheets which again suffers badly from loss and general destruction. Another source is the contemporary magazines which are of interest even when all that is available are the advertisements. Material can also be gleaned from wholesalers and the larger gunshops whose annual catalogues often included air weapons. One I have for 1894 offers air canes for bullet and shot and the Gem Air Gun at 15s (or 75p).

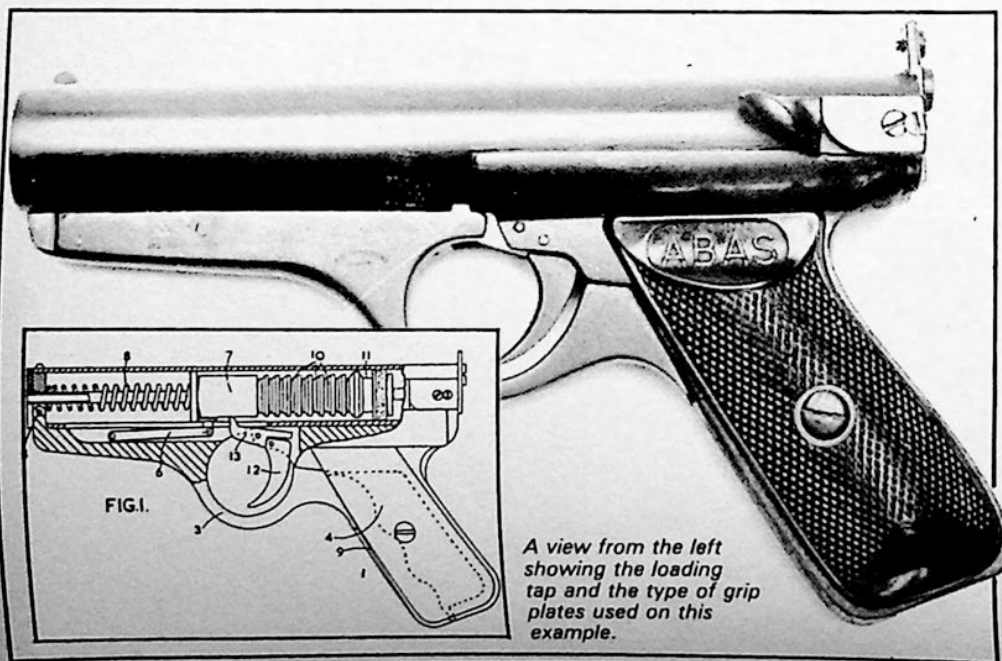
In the 1930s A.G. Parker of Birmingham offered the range of BSA air-rifles, the German Haenel range, the Webley Mark 1 and the American Crossman. Air pistols were restricted to the Webley Junior, the Mark 1 and the Senior. To digress slightly I suppose that the three Webley air pistols I have owned over the last 50 years have given me more pleasure than any other gun, rifle or pistol in my collection.

The "Senior" illustrated in Parker's catalogue was, of course, the early model with the "W & S" on the grip, an adjustable trigger and the "vertical" handle. An odd thing about this catalogue is that the Webley Mark 1 description is illustrated by the Mark 11 model. All three models — the Junior, Mark 11 and the Senior — bear the Johnstone & Fearn 1923 patent No 219872 on what the patent calls "the fixed bracket" at the rear of the air cylinder.

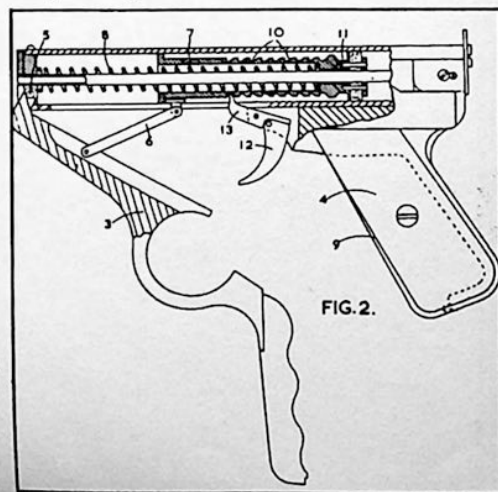
No other air pistols were offered for sale in the Parker catalogues but even a brief glance at pre-World War II German catalogues show a wide range of air pistols. Pistols by Tell, IGA, Hubertus and Haenel grace the pages but for the serious researcher the catalogue is short on data since the export houses such as WUM employed their own code names.

Last of all, an increasing amount of information is to be found in the pages of magazines such as this one. This source of information has one serious fault: it lacks an index. For this reason the serious student should establish his own. A few 6in

The exploded drawings (below) show details of the patent specification.



A view from the left showing the loading tap and the type of grip plates used on this example.



THE "ABAS MAJOR" AIR PISTOL NO. 1

An early advert for the ABAS Major pistol.



SAFETY MODEL, INCORPORATING
PATENT RATCHET COCKING,
FIXED FULLY RIFLED BARREL,
LEVER LOADING,
ASSURING
MAXIMUM ACCURACY,
HIGH VELOCITY AND
RELIABILITY.

90/-

FULLY
ADJUSTABLE
REAR SIGHT,
PERFECT BALANCE
AND
INCREDIBLE ACCURACY.

A PRODUCT OF THE SPORTING GUN TRADE
Made by A. A. Brown & Sons, Sand St., Birmingham 4, Eng.
BRITISH MADE THROUGHOUT

x 4in cards, alphabetical spacers and a card index box will set you up and greatly ease the search for data.

In my own recent researches I have been interested by background and origin of the firms whose names are to be found on air weapons. Quite a surprising number were manufacturers of shotguns or rifles long before they started to make air weapons. I'm certain that you can think of quite a few yourself — Webley & Scott, Greener, Anson, Westley Richards and A.A. Brown.

Brown is of interest because this firm is still in existence and although they haven't made air pistols for many years now they do make extremely high quality shotguns. As with many gun firms, both large and small, Brown went into the air pistol market after WWII in order to keep their staff in gun work until material which would allow

them to return to shotgun manufacture became available.

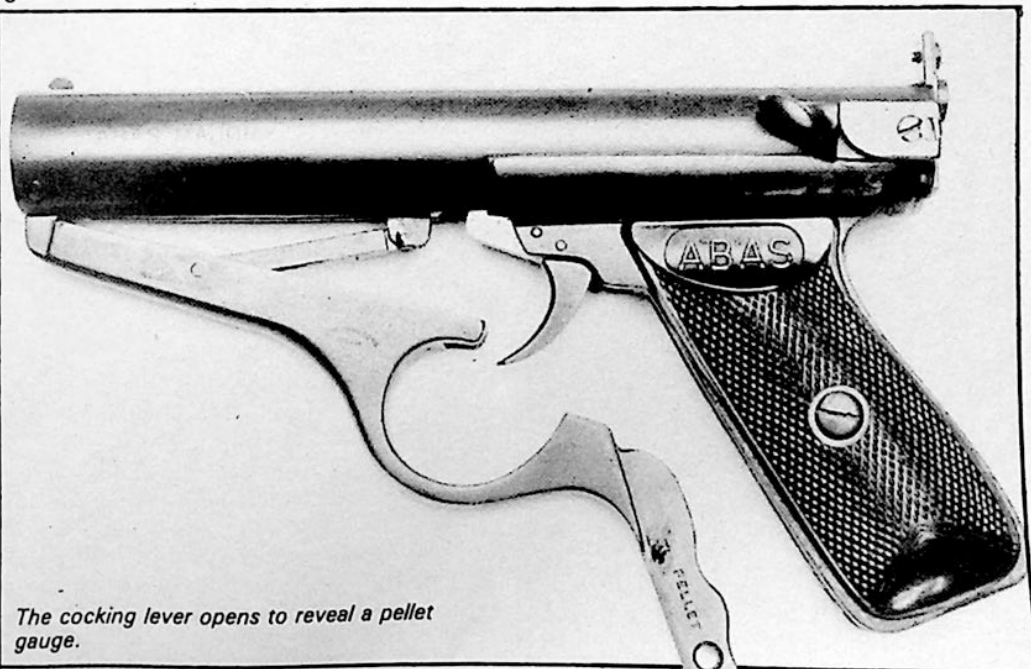
Although the firm has the initials A.A. Brown after Albert Arthur Brown the company was actually started by Albert Henry Brown in 1937. A.H. Brown served his time with Webley & Scott and started on his own in the early 1930s. When the company was formed he was joined by Sidney and his father Albert Arthur. A.H. Brown was a Guardian of the Birmingham Proof House from 1946 until 1961 and he retired from the firm in 1978.

Brown's were what one might call, gunmaker's gunmakers. Their premises were in Whittall Street, in the heart of Birmingham's gunmaking quarter, and here

they made gun actions. In the directories of the period they are listed under the category "Gun Action Makers" with their address at 35½ Whittall Street. They moved from this address in 1941 due to bomb damage but after the war they moved back into the gun quarter to Sand Street. Sand Street ran between Weaman Street and Catherine Street (later Whittall Street). It was here that the "ABAS MAJOR" Air Pistol No 1" was designed and built. The patent, taken out in the names of the father and his two sons, is dated January 1946 and is No 604411.

According to Mr Sidney Brown, it was his brother Albert who made the major contribution to the design of the pistol. It was introduced to keep the workforce intact and some 1,800 were manufactured. It is likely that the idea to make air pistols first came from work which the firm did for Curry & Keen of Steelhouse Lane. This firm had bought the tools, equipment and part-finished work from the firm of E. Anson, also of Steelhouse Lane. Anson was one of the most prolific inventors in the air weapons' field and Curry and Keen had inherited part-finished components of the Anson "Star" air pistol which they got Brown's to finish. The completed pistols were then sold by Curry & Keen but once the stock of components had been used up no further production was undertaken.

Albert Brown carried out work on the development of an air pistol at Sand Street and it was during this period that he suffered an injury to his hand when the cocking lever slipped and his fingers were



The cocking lever opens to reveal a pellet gauge.



caught between the lever and the butt of the pistol. It was due to this accident that the most important feature of the ABAS air pistol was developed, the ratchet cocking system. Those of you who have had their knuckles rapped by a cocking lever will appreciate that a ratchet system like that employed on the ABAS pistol has much to commend it. The illustration shows how the annular grooves in the pistol act as a ratchet mechanism with the intercepting or secondary sear. That this idea owes something to the lockwork of a sidelock shotgun, where the intercepting sear prevents the gun from being discharged should the sear be jarred out of the bent, is to be expected in view of the experience of the patentees with shotgun locks. The adaption of the idea to an air pistol is most ingenious.

Mr Sidney C. Brown, one of the co-patentees of the ABAS air pistol, at work on an oiled stock.



The name ABAS is an acronym based on A.A. Brown & Sons and is still used by the firm on the shotguns they manufacture. The illustrations show the concentric arrangement of spring and piston around the barrel and cocking is easy with the long cocking lever which forms the front strap, trigger guard and continues along the barrel. When in production the ABAS Major No 1 air pistol sold at about £5.50 which was just between the price then being asked for the Webley Junior and the Senior air pistols. The American literature, while commending the features and the high performance of the ABAS Major, condemned the appearance as being weird and bulky. This opinion I cannot share since in my view the ABAS is one of the best-looking air pistols and one which I would like to see back in production.

How many of the original 1,800 have survived is unknown but A.A. Brown & Sons confirm they have none and do not intend to resume production being very fully occupied with their main concern — the manufacture of high quality sidelock shotguns.

If there are any ABAS Major pistols still in use I would like to hear about them and the views of their owners since they must now be over 30 years old!

During the time I have been putting this article together I have had the opportunity to take stock of my resources. There is quite a bit of information on my files from Shooting Times readers who responded to past articles on air weapons. Most of this material is concerned with adverts from magazines of the 1930s. Here I have to thank Mr W.A. Thurbon and Mr Crear. Mr Thurbon I see from past issues has also been of help to my predecessor. Due to the nature of the subject I will have to rely quite heavily on help from fellow enthusiasts and, acknowledgements will be made to those who make a contribution to the series though of course some people do not wish their names to be mentioned and providing I am told of this their wishes will, of course, be respected.

Illustration will present some difficulties since although air pistols can look quite photogenic this is not always so in the case of air rifles. Air rifles and airguns lack, in the majority of cases, any engraving or decoration which does serve to help out with the photography of, say, shotguns. Drawings often show more detail but in the end it will be you, the reader, who will, I hope, tell me what you want. Until I get some feed-back I shall try and vary the menu but emphasis will be on the 19th century weapons which are now out of production.

It is a slightly sobering thought that my trusty Webley Senior bought just after the last war is now regarded as a "collectable". Similar feelings are aroused when I visit a motor museum and realise that I owned several of the cars displayed and at one time or another had driven well over half of them!

So, let me have your views on how you would like to see this series developed. This will also give me a better understanding of the readership of "Collector's Corner".

Acknowledgements. My thanks to the firm of A.A. Brown & Sons, Alvechurch for their kindness to me during my visit and for their unfailing response to my queries over the past few years.

Refs: "The Anson Star" Shooting Times Feb 2 1978

Birmingham Public Libraries.

Equipment for the Hunter

by Freddie Dalgety

CLOTHING and equipment are ever making hunting easier and more comfortable. Thanks in part to new products, my rifles are better zeroed, my knives sharper, I see clearer, and all is more organised.

Targets:- Zeroing the rifle to suit individual pellets, and endless target practice, are both important to success in the field. Printarg, P.O. Box 18, Poole, Dorset BH14 8EA, have increased their range of rubber stamps for printing one's own targets, to cover every requirement of zeroing and score shooting to ranges as great as 50 yards. Many of the zeroing squares and circles now feature a centre dot from which the distance to group centre may be measured, and there are engraved transparent overlays for scoring when large targets with large bulls are used for long range shooting. Every airgunner should find patterns to suit his requirements from the Printarg list, and once the rubber stamp and inking pad have been bought, endless cost-free targets can be produced on the back of cereal packets or any other suitable material. My target stamps have proved their worth many times over.

Shooting glasses:- I used to associate tinted glasses with holidays by the sea and high street fashion. Today I have learned the value of many tints in shooting glasses which both help vision and protect the eyes from dust and vicious branches. Yellow throws up contrast and helps on dull days. Neutral grey reduces strain from general bright light. Green is more restful. Brown is also restful and gives some increased contrast. Most useful is amber which combines a reduction in brightness with much improved contrast.

Tasco have a full range of tinted plastic lensed shooting glasses at a reasonable price. Best value are those in contrast yellow, neutral grey or clear from Orvis U.K. Ltd., Nether Wallop Mill, Stockbridge, Hants SO20 8ES at £4.50 including postage. These are purpose built for the shooter with side shields, and even have room for prescription spectacles to be worn within. Bausch & Lomb have a fine Ray-Ban range at a higher price made with toughened glass lenses that are optically correct. Their yellow is my bad light friend and their photochromic lenses which adjust to the light, darkening as conditions brighten, are excellent. Top choice must be their Ambermatics.

Equally fine and tough if heat treated are Reactolite Rapides. They have extra advantages in faster response to changing light and availability with prescription lenses. Brown giving up to either 70 or 90% light transmission are good for reduced eye

strain and some contrast improvement, but Amber 70 must be considered the out and out shooting colour. Mine made up to my own prescription have transformed my shooting through improved game recognition and definition in the field.

Polarising lenses give the extra advantage of cutting out reflected light and much glare. The originals by Polaroid with plastic lenses are outstanding value. Again back brown or amber tints for shooting.

Last year saw the introduction of the Sunsensor XP2 range, which brings the best of most shooting glass features together in one glass. A fine light and thin laminate is made of a photochromic optically correct glass lens which adjusts to the light and has been toughened, with a polarising element to cut out reflected light in the centre, and a back of polyurethane with great resistance to scratches. These cannot be bought in prescription form, and are only available in grey, but otherwise give more than any previous shooting glass has offered.

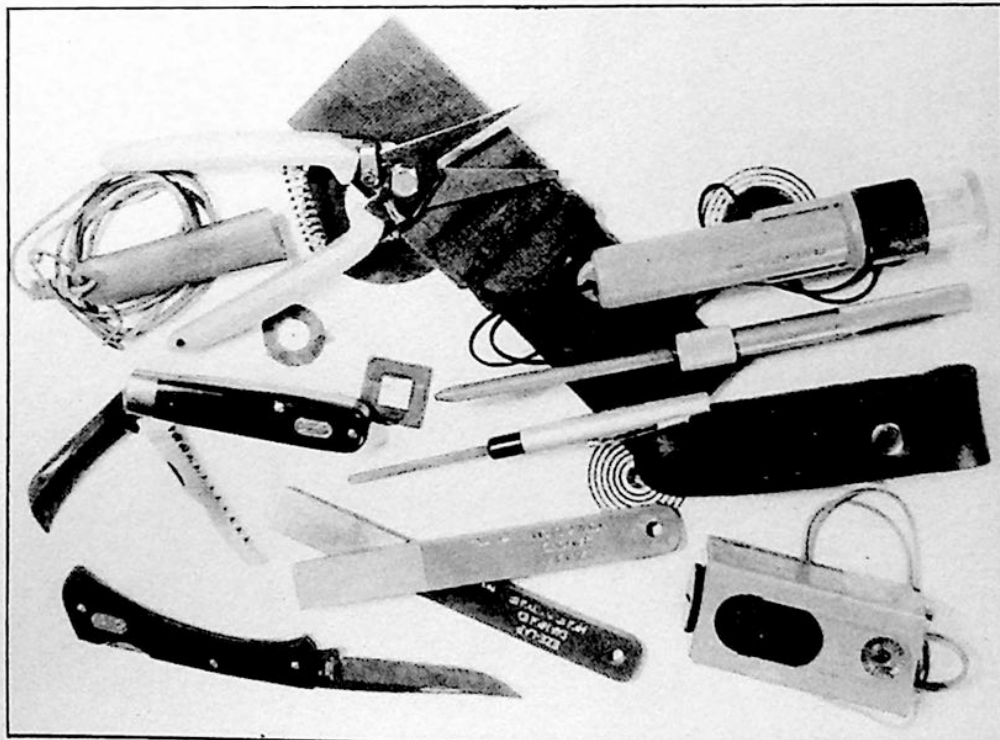
Extensive tests of all the above have shown that every shooter performs best with the right shooting glasses, and that the eye protection is a bonus. All those mentioned are good, and the matter of choice rests on personal tastes and the depth of one's pocket.

Summer camouflage:- Kammo products have been doing a good job for shooters for

many years. Using Kammo gloves for the past year has eliminated the game scaring pale flash as hands raise the rifle to shoot. This summer the new hip-length Klondike jacket with full length zip, knitted wool cuffs, and elasticated hem is proving particularly useful. It is tough, light, easy to slip on, and like all Kammo Wear, excellent camouflage. At under £15, it is good value.

Sweaters:- Most of us have been wearing military-style sweaters with patches to combat wear at elbow and shoulder for years, but I have been slow to realise that the original Bridgedale Military is also available in blue with epaulettes. These small Velcro fastened straps on the shoulder are invaluable for ensuring that slings cannot slip, allowing rifles, binoculars or cameras to fall to the ground. Like others in this range, the sweater is of superior quality, warm, and with generous length.

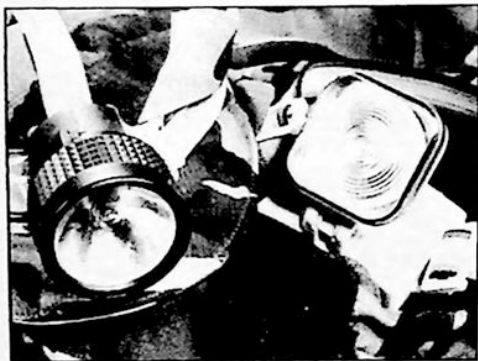
Boots:- Bridgedale have also introduced an excellent range of rubber boots made in Malaya where the rubber is grown. The avocado green and olive colours are practical, and all three patterns come in a full range of sizes. Countrysports are tough knee-length boot with a self-cleaning cleated sole, and lacing at the top. The two models in the picture are the Dryboot at £22.95 and the Puddler £17.95. Dryboot is an ankle model with steel shank and both insulation and padding for real comfort in



A selection of torches, knives, sharpeners and snips — all good equipment for the hunter.

Continued from page 53

long distance walking. Made of sheet rubber without seams or stitching, they are tough and waterproof to their full height of almost 7in. However, thanks to the ankle design and insulation, condensation is no problem. The Puddler qualifies as the most comfortable light-weight pull-on boot that I have ever used. It is very practical and like the Dryboot is standing up to every tough test I can give it. Bridgedale also sell socks that are a good idea with boots. Meraklon thermal inner socks wipe moisture away from the feet and compliment the comfort and warmth of their nylon/wool mix cushion loop models in designs for all weathers and occasions.



The black 'Petzl Zoom Headlight' (left) with a Pifco Lightweight Headlight.

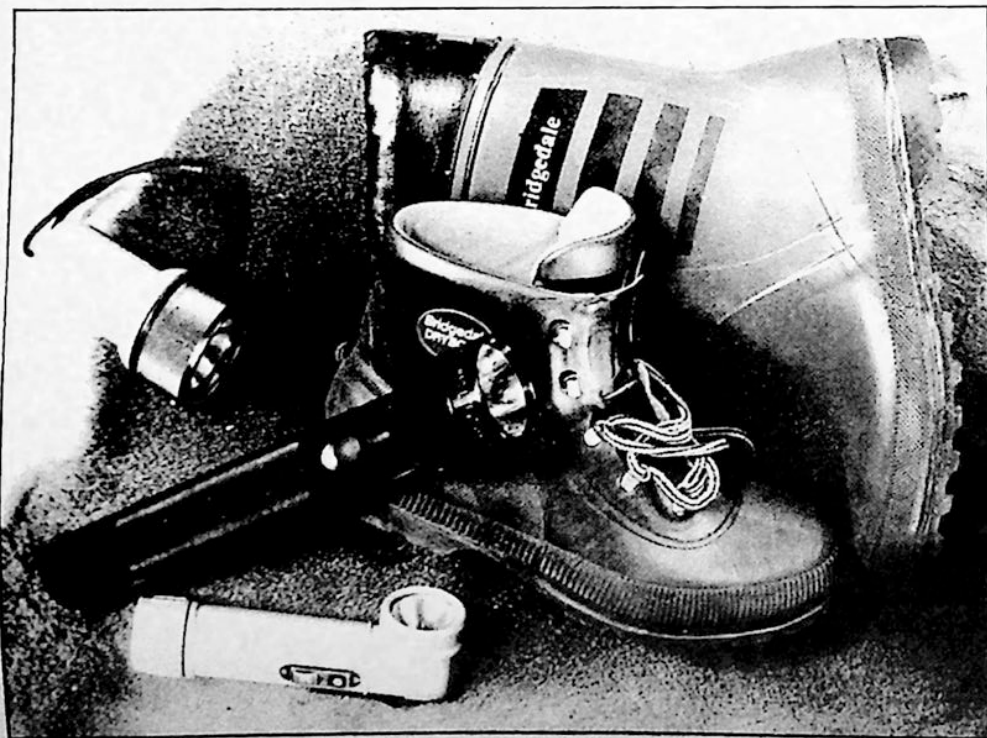
In reasonably dry conditions, nothing is more comfortable for all day wear and long distance walking as leather boots. New and particularly good are the lightweight Nomads by G.T. Hawkins Ltd., of Northampton. The ankle support benefits from comfortable padding. Silicone treated leather and a full bellows tongue ensures long life and water proof properties for their full height which are retained with normal care and dubbin. A toe buffer reduces scuff and the sole grips self-cleans well. Quick to lace, comfortable to wear and both tough and lightweight, thanks to good design and construction, they seem a good investment at £45.

Knives:- Good hunters waste nothing, and through judicious pruning and planting, are for ever improving habitat. For cleaning and skinning game, or working on plants, a good knife is the most useful general tool. Cutlery quality stainless steel brought new standards to pocket knives, and it is good news that Wilkinson Sword have brought generations of expertise to a new range of Sheffield-made pocket knives. Of the test knives, all of which are reasonably priced, two models are of most interest to the shooter. The 4in Sportsman opens to 7in with a good working blade and back lock, and the hooked pruning blade of the gardening knife is fine for cleaning as

well as plant work, and is backed by a good useful pruning saw with side-lock. Both have hollow ground stainless blades, brass liners and pins, and tough black synthetic scales with the crossed sword logo inset. As usual with Wilkinson Sword, the blades take a wicked edge.

Snips:- Snips seem an unlikely hunter's tool, but the Wilkinson model at £5.95 from D.I.Y. shops has proved one of the most useful gadgets I have met. Surprisingly it is quicker to clean, skin and joint a rabbit precisely with the snips than with a knife. They are ideal for trimming leather and heavy nylon webbing as used in slings, clean cut the finest thread, do light pruning and even cut wire. To save losing them, I drilled a lanyard hole in one of the orange plastic handles, and either carry them in a nylon belt sheath from Survival Aids, or in the short length of plastic hose shown in the picture attached to a pin. They hang from their points which grip the hose by the outward action of the spring.

Knife Sharpening:- This has become a problem of the past with the arrival of Du Pont's man-made industrial diamond tools by Eze-Lap. Eze-Lap sharpeners allow edges to be honed at a more acute and effective angle, they speed up sharpening, need less pressure and therefore are less likely to turn the edges on blades of softer steel, while also being just as effective on expensive knives with very hard steel blades that are hard to sharpen with even the best stones. They should be washed occasionally in soapy water, but need no oil or water in use. Tests have shown they are far superior to all the alternatives for rapidly honing a fine edge. The three forms of major interest to shooters, are shown in the photograph with the Wilkinson knives. They are model M bottom left, model S centre and LF with LM top right. S is a pen style in which the steel reverses into the handle when not in use. It costs £4.99 and has one flat edge for shaping points, etc., a groove for fish hooks and is otherwise round. It is ideal for maintaining a razor edge with just a few seconds' work, and with time can reshape and sharpen the roughest blade. Model M is for the serious stalker. Its 6.5mm x 92mm steel reverses into the brass handle and is carried in a leather belt scabbard. It handles well both small and large jobs, but costs £18.73. The flat model LF costing £4.99 brings more diamond into contact with a flat blade and is better for working round a convex edge, but awkward for working inside a concave one. All these have a fine diamond grit for producing razor edges. Model LM is the



An ankle boot and the 'Puddler', both from Bridgedale.

shape of LF but has a medium diamond grit which is excellent for reshaping the profile and section of a blade. It costs £7.07 and is best backed by a fine diamond tool like the model S for finally touching up the edge. If you cannot find these in your gunsmith, write with P.O., to the distributors; Mortons of Sheffield, 98 West Street, Sheffield S1 4EP.

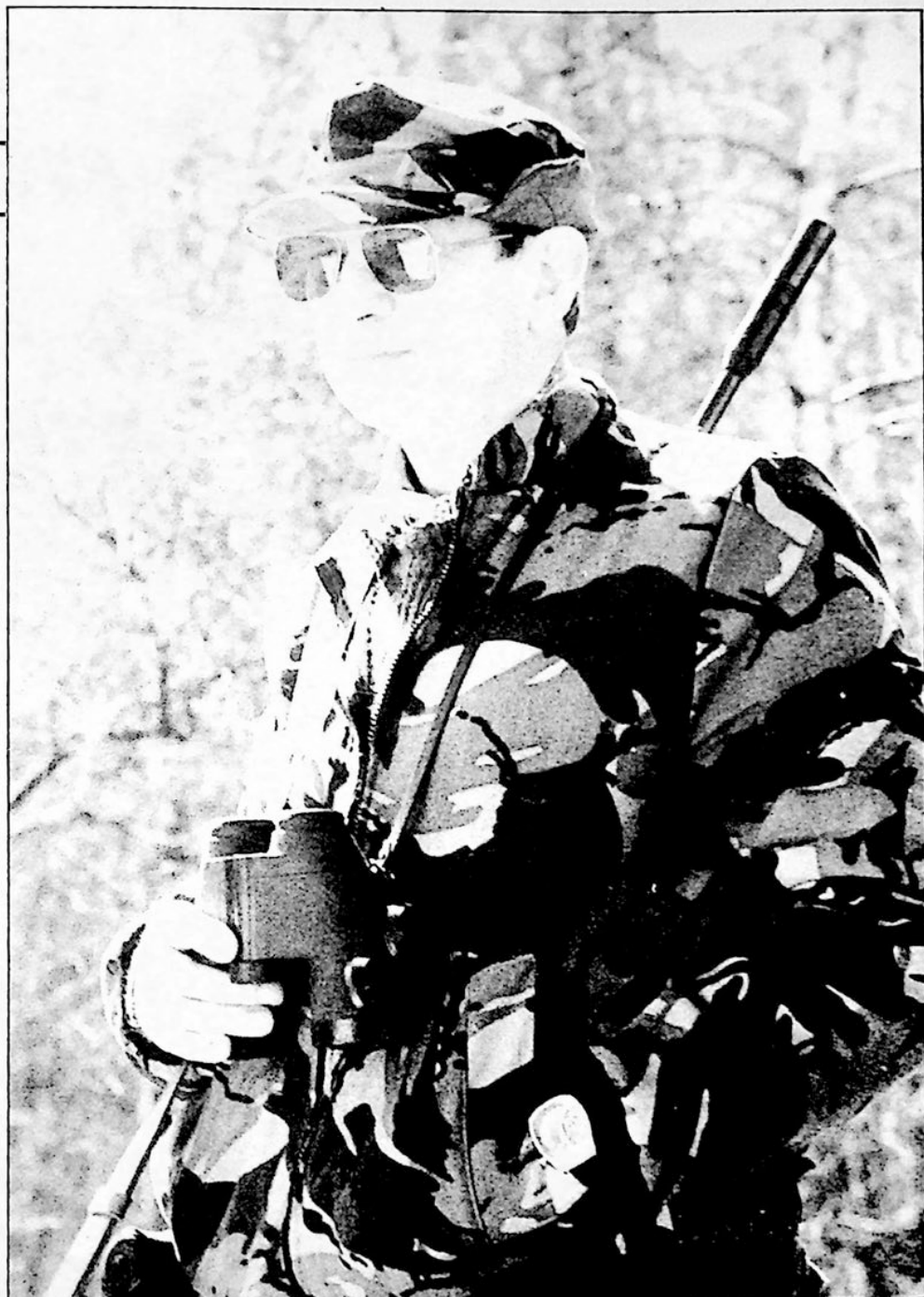
Torches:- Whether for starting pre-dawn, returning post-dusk, or shooting at night, a reliable torch of the right design is important. I always carry one small torch for checking equipment and as standby. Proof against everything, fitted with lanyard hole and strap slots for fitting to arm, rifle, etc., giving both all round light and a centre beam, but with rattling batteries, The Tekna 2000 at £10.95 is good. Best is the ultra-tough and all resistant Crewlight with silent switch, red filter for night sight protection, lanyard, belt clip and provision for Velcro attachment to shooting jacket, at £14.95. Both come from Survival Aids.

For heavier use the 4 cell floating Tekna 1705 at £19.95, or the old favourite, the military angled torch with belt clip at £5.95, take a lot of beating. Both come from Survival Aids, the Tekna gives the brightest light and the angled torch the greatest running time from batteries. For total strength, brightness, length of battery life, etc., the Mag-Lite torches made in America from machined aluminium with O ring seals and focusing heads are tops. They cost more and can be found in good gunshops.

To keep the hands free while benefitting from a strong light, a head torch is the solution. Readily available for a few pounds from High Street Shops, is the Pifco model which has an elasticated head-band supporting a 4 cell body, to which the lamphead is hinged to give adjustable angles. Better balanced, tougher, and with a focusing beam, is the Petzl Zoom Headlamp, with which the head is balanced by the battery pack at the back. This black bodied lamp has proved most reliable and useful. It is standard equipment for many cavers and can be found reasonably priced in gunsmiths or climbing shops. In the case of difficulty write to Lyon Ladders, Rise Hill Mill, Dent, Sedbergh, Cumbria.

Slings and Racks:- In a recent article I briefly mentioned Tyler slings. Tyler International, Bancroft House, 34 Nancroft, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1LA, have four products of interest to the airgunner:-

The Tyler webbing sling costs £4.50. It has proved sound and reliable and need not be



The author kitted-out for a stalk.

removes from the rifle to shoot, if a scope sight is used.

The smart de luxe version in fine stitched soft leather with a brass buckle costs £13.50 and compliments more expensive air rifles.

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A generally more useful rack at £12.70 can be fitted to the inside of a boot lid, the roof of a van or similar place, and is used by me in the Suzuki 4x4.



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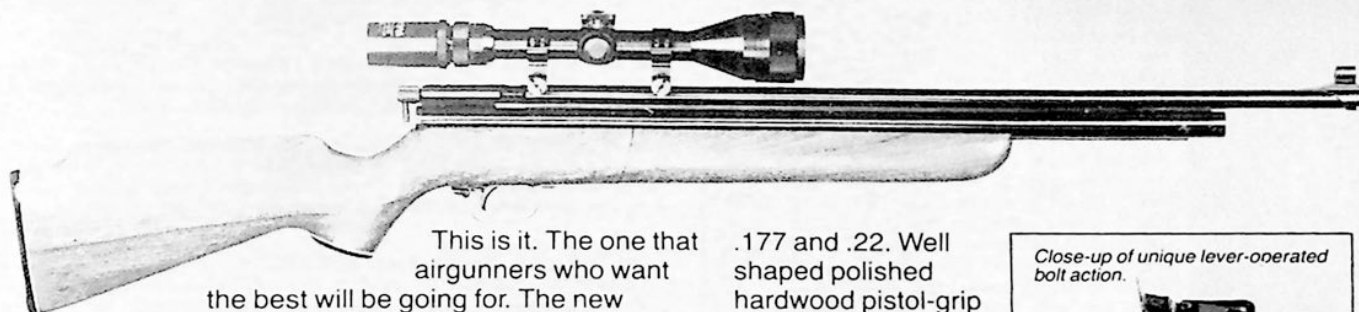
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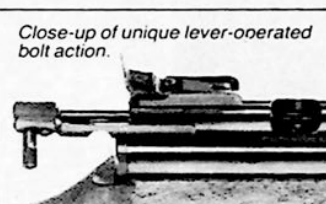
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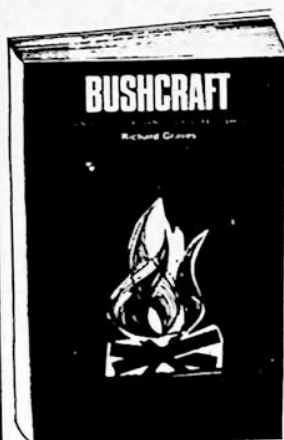
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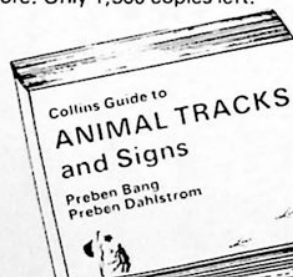
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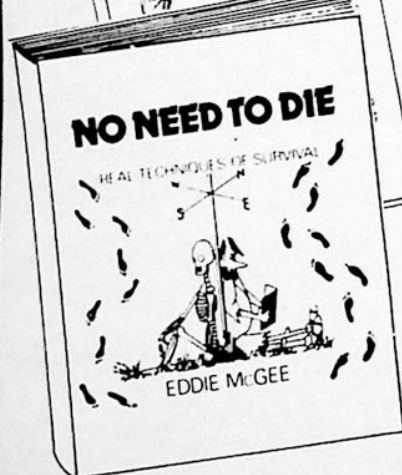
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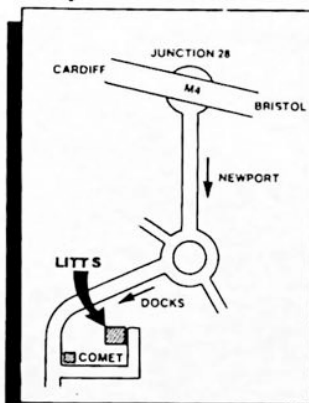
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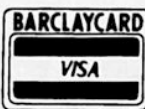
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Black Widow: A Folding Slingshot with moulded grip and wrist bracer, standard or magnum power bands.

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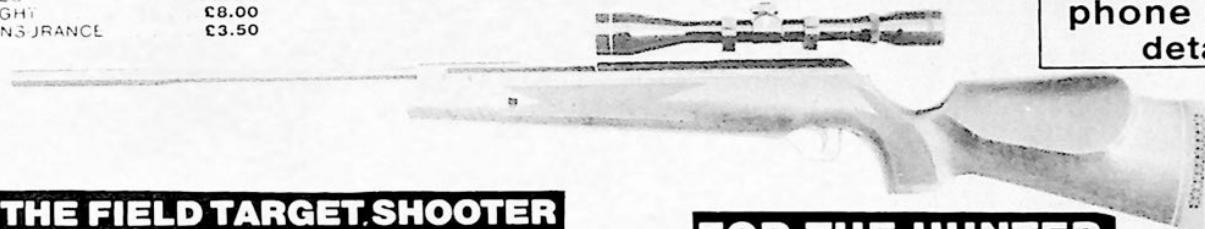
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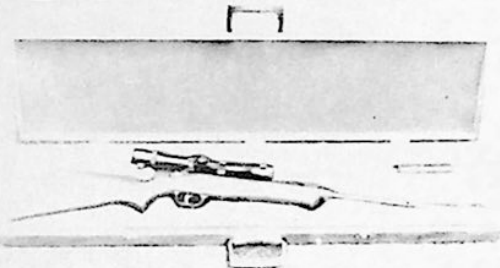
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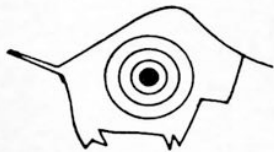
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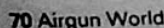
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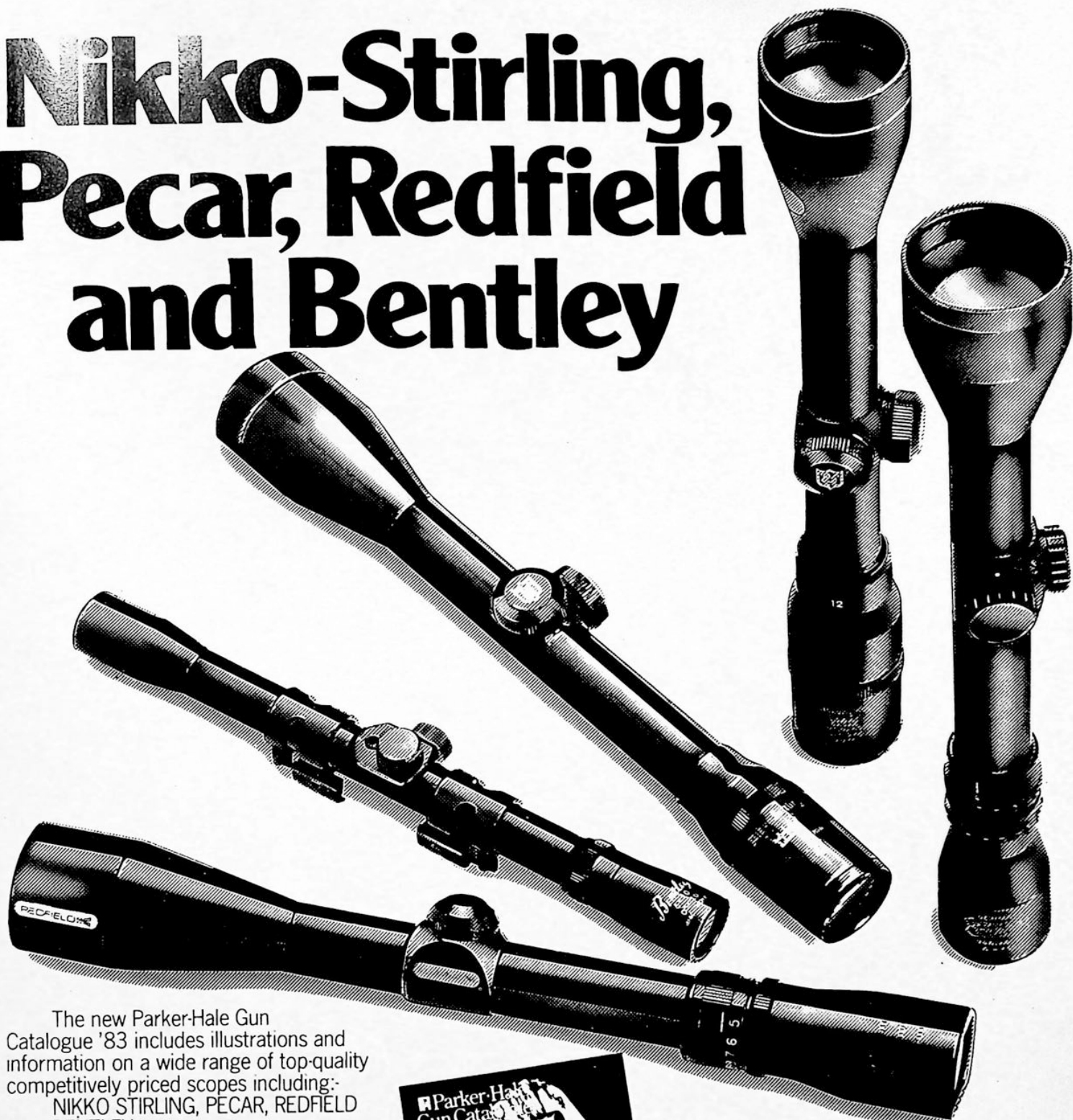
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